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FOURTEEN PAGES - T YD RIYALN

IMF loan imminent

By Wahib Ghorab

JEDDAH, March 18 — Saudi Arabia is expected to agree in principle to a fresh loan of about \$4 billion to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), *Arab News* learned here Wednesday.

The loan, to be given over a period of two years, would be used to make for the deficit which the IMF is experiencing in its financial resources, to carry out its credit programs toward the poorer countries of the world.

The Kingdom's approval will be forthcoming in the wake of a formula of accord between it and the IMF, according to which the Kingdom's share will be paid in the fund's capital at an average of 3.5 per cent.

At the fund's last meeting in Washington, Saudi Arabia has asked for a five per cent share in the capital.

According to well-informed sources, this loan would not be considered part of Saudi Arabia's share in the fund's capital. Meanwhile, if the Kingdom obtains a 3.5 per cent share in the fund's capital, it would raise its voting capacity to the seventh position. It would then be preceded only by the U.S., France, Britain, West Germany, Japan and Canada.

Other participating countries are included in regional groups, deputizing one member on the board of directors. These groups represent Africa, the Pacific and Southeast Asia. The fund had earlier requested huge loans from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, in exchange for an increase in their contributions to the fund. These states were asked to give 25 per cent of the total loans given to the fund.

Earlier Central Bank governors of Islamic nations have asked the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to invite the Palestine Liberation Organization to the meetings of both institutions.

The request was made by Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al-Qurashi, governor of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA), in his capacity as chairman of the recently held meeting of Muslim central bank governors in Riyadh.

Habib Chatti, secretary general of the 39 nation Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) also called U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim demanding that the PLO be given observer status at the IMF and World Bank.

Arab countries, led by Saudi Arabia, had decided to withhold loans to the World Bank to protest the blocking of the PLO status by the United States at the two international institutions.

IMF sources in Washington have reported that the institution was negotiating with Saudi Arabia to borrow between \$3.7 billion and \$5 billion annually for the next three years.

The controversy over the PLO status followed the failure of the boards of the World Bank and the IMF to carry out recommendations by the chairman of the two U.N. agencies, Amir Jamal of Tanzania, calling for giving the PLO an observer status.

Jordan to invest \$8.5 billion

AMMAN, March 18 (R) — Jordan's development plan for 1981-85 calls for investments of 1.8 billion Jordanian dinars (\$8.75 billion) to boost commodity production and reach a 10.4 per cent annual growth in gross national production officials said Wednesday.

The biggest single investment envisaged in the plan, which will be discussed by the national consultative council (parliament) on March 30, is 604 million dinars (\$1.9 billion) for the industrial and mining sector, followed by 463 million dinars (\$1.44 billion) for transport.

Meanwhile, officials said that a consortium of French companies had been awarded a \$1.6 billion Jordan (\$130 million) contract for Jordan's biggest telecommunications project. Signed here Tuesday, the agreement provided for improving telephone services in northern Jordan and the Jordan valley region within 31 months. A consortium of eight French banks is to help finance the project with a loan of more than 15 million dinars (\$47 million).

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CAMPAIGN WALK: French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing walks alone in a Paris street Tuesday as he goes to his electoral campaign headquarters in the Champs-Élysées district. Giscard is running for the April elections.

To streamline proposals

OIC mission to visit Iran, Iraq March 29

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 18 — The Islamic goodwill committee is to undertake a fresh trip to Tehran and Baghdad March 29 to review its proposals to the leaders of Iraq and Iran on an acceptable formula for a ceasefire between the two countries.

Diplomatic sources told *Arab News* here Wednesday that, before proceeding on to the capitals of Iran and Iraq, the committee would meet here March 28.

Meanwhile, hectic behind-the-scenes activities are taking place at the headquarters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) here to receive and streamline new suggestions put forward by the two disputing parties. Some proposals have also been made by leaders of the countries taking part in the committee's task.

Meanwhile, a four-man peace commission set up by the non-aligned movement has postponed a planned trip to Iran and Iraq to seek an end to the Gulf war, it was reported Tuesday.

The commission, made up of the foreign

ministers of Cuba, India, Zambia and the foreign affairs spokesman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, had been scheduled to embark on its mediation effort Tuesday, traveling to Tehran first then to Baghdad.

No reason was given for the postponement, but the PLO information office in Beirut, Lebanon, said the foreign ministers flew to their countries for consultations with their government, and that they were expected to reassemble for the trip sometime next week.

A spokesman said the foreign ministers flew out of Beirut after a meeting with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, who himself is a member of a wider, Islamic goodwill mission trying to mediate in the war.

Tunisia's Habib Chatti, a member of the mission and OIC secretary general said formal responses given by Iran and Iraq to the proposed peace plan had left the door open for further efforts by the OIC.

In New York, a U.N. spokesman said Monday that envoy Olof Palme probably will make his fourth visit to Iran and Iraq next week to continue his efforts toward ending the war.

Dollar weakens; gold up \$20

LONDON, March 18 (R) — The dollar slumped and gold rose on world money markets Wednesday as fears increased that the United States economy may be in for another bout of recession. The U.S. currency was down to 0.0635 marks after 2.0880 Tuesday, giving the West German monetary authorities some relaxation from their efforts to protect the mark from the dollar's strength in recent months.

Gold was nearly \$20 an ounce higher than its level in Europe Tuesday and several dollars above its New York close, trading on European markets Wednesday at \$510.50 an ounce. Dealers said the markets were interpreting figures published in Washington Tuesday assigns that the U.S. economy might

be heading toward recession after recovering last autumn. And this could mean that the high U.S. interest rates which have been helping the dollar, might be further softened, the dealers added.

The government figures showed that housing construction plummeted and factory output faltered in February.

The dollar's weakness Wednesday helped the pound sterling, which is not likely to please recession-hit British industry. Sterling rose three cents against the dollar from Tuesday's level on European markets. The pound is now trading at seven cents above its value a week ago just after British interest rates were eased as part of Britain's budget.

At U.N.

U.S. blocks Israel's condemnation

UNITED NATIONS, March 18 (R) — The United States prevented the Security Council issuing a formal condemnation Tuesday night of the killing of two Palestinians serving with the U.N. force in Lebanon, diplomats said Wednesday. U.N. officials in southern Lebanon, blamed Israeli-backed right-wing Lebanese Christian militia for the deaths and the wounding of many other U.N. soldiers during an artillery barrage against the village of Kantara on Monday.

Security Council members met in private for a long time but were unable to produce a statement of condemnation because the U.S. was unwilling to accept even a hint that Israel

backed the attackers, diplomats said. The Nigerian delegation, angry at the council's failure to act, was contemplating a request for full debate on the Kantara incident, the diplomats added.

Council members unanimously condemned the Kantara incident during their meeting on Monday, immediately after Secretary General Kurt Waldheim told them of the heavy casualties.

A statement was prepared for Council President Peter Florin of East Germany to make on their behalf. But it was pulled back at the last minute for further discussions on the wording.

Egypt, U.S. resume talks on nuclear accord

By Bob Lebling
and Fouzi Asmar
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 18 — Egypt, which last month ratified the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, has resumed talks with the United States on a long-stalled agreement to provide Egypt with American-built nuclear power stations, according to diplomatic sources.

Negotiations on the nuclear aid accord have been held up since 1979 because of a U.S. requirement for international inspections of nuclear facilities it provides to other countries. Egypt's ratification of the non-proliferation treaty opens Egyptian nuclear

plants to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency, thus meeting the U.S. requirement and eliminating the main obstacle to a U.S.-Egyptian nuclear accord.

A parallel U.S. nuclear agreement with Israel remains stalled because of Israel's refusal to sign the non-proliferation treaty or open its nuclear facilities to international inspection. Egypt's ratification of the treaty Feb. 16 cleared the way for a major Egyptian effort to develop a nuclear energy capability.

March 9, France agreed to provide Egypt with two nuclear power plants with a capacity of 1,000 megawatts each, at a cost of about \$2 billion.

Egypt hopes that the current negotiations with the U.S. will result in an additional two

British-Arab talks on Gulf defense set

By Anne Whitehouse
London Bureau

LONDON, March 18 — Britain's Defense Secretary John Nott is to visit the Middle East next week for talks with ministers of defense and officials in Saudi Arabia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain.

High on the agenda for discussion will be the controversial Rapid Deployment Force, mentioned in a Washington speech by Prime

Minister Margaret Thatcher on her recent trip to America.

Mrs. Thatcher's commitment to a British contribution to an allied RDF earlier this month met with surprise and suspicion in the Gulf. According to Ministry of Defense spokesmen, however, Nott's visit to the Middle East at the invitation of the host governments was arranged before Mrs. Thatcher's U.S. visit.

Speaking in the House of Commons Tuesday, Nott said that Britain could deploy a spear head battalion on a 72-hour alert and there were VC-10s and Hercules aircraft to transport men and equipment and the Eighth Field Force which included a fully trained paratroop battalion.

He said there were other forces which were earmarked by NATO as mobile forces which could form part of a substantial force. Some were deployed in the U.K. and others on the continent.

Replying to opposition criticism that the Gulf states should have been consulted before Mrs. Thatcher announced that the RDF be set up, Nott insisted it was not envisaged that the RDF would be used for instance in the Gulf without the support of the states concerned. There was a continuing dialogue between the Gulf states, the U.S. and Britain, he said.

Nott's visit to the Gulf between March 23 and April 1 will be the first by a British defense secretary for over three years. Minister of State for Defense Lord Strathmore visited Saudi Arabia in 1980.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources said Wednesday Secretary of State Alexander Haig will discuss U.S. policy toward the Middle East with the British government following a first visit to the area next month.

Haig has arranged meetings with Lord Carrington, Britain's foreign secretary, in London April 10 on his way home after a six-day tour that will take him to Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Jordan, the U.S. embassy said. Diplomatic sources said the London stopover was regarded by both countries as important in view of the Reagan administration's current reassessment of Middle East problems.

Officials said Haig planned to arrive here late April 9 after a two-day halt in Spain and would leave for Washington next day. They said it was not clear yet whether he would also meet Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The Middle East is likely to emerge as a key issue between the United States and its West European allies this year, with the 10-nation European Common Market pressing its own peace initiative for the area.

President Reagan and Haig expressed serious doubts about the European moves when Mrs. Thatcher and Lord Carrington visited Washington last month. The foreign secretary said there was a "difference of emphasis" over Europe's separate diplomacy.

Zia meets released hostages

By Shahid Orakzai
Arab News Correspondent

PESHAWAR, March 18 — Braving a heavy shower and brushing aside protocol President Zia Ul Haq warmly received about a hundred passengers and crew of a hijacked PIA airliner who arrived here Wednesday from Medina after a record air captivity.

The entire cabinet, military top brass and provincial governors lined up to give a red carpet welcome to returnees reaching their destination 16 days behind schedule. Thousands of people including relatives of the passengers, thronged a profusely decorated airport terminal. "The Nation Salutes Your Patience" one of the banners read. President Zia was soaked in rain water as he embraced more than hundred countrymen as they stepped on their soil. Many of them kissed the president and thanked him for his efforts to secure their release.

The first passenger to alight from the Boeing-707 was an old woman who refused to leave the plane without her son at Kabul Airport where the three hijackers released about 30 women and children. A diabetic patient, the 60-year-old Mrs. Anwar Jan accompanied her son throughout the 13-day plane ordeal.

President Zia is giving a dinner in honor of the released hostages and is likely to decorate them with civil awards.

The plane with 141 people on board was hijacked March 2 during a flight from Karachi to Peshawar and taken to Kabul. One Pakistani diplomat was killed by gunmen before the plane flew to Damascus. General Zia had to release 54 prisoners to secure the release of the passengers and plane in an agreement with the hijackers.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has accused the Reagan administration of making a crude attempt to blame Moscow for prolonging the hijacking of the Pakistani airliner. The State Department said Monday Moscow ignored U.S. pleas to resolve the incident and the hijackers may have been given machine guns during the six days the plane was in Kabul.

In an unusual statement, the Soviet embassy replied that "the crude and undignified attempt to somehow make the Soviet Union responsible for the incident involving the hijacked Pakistani plane is completely groundless." The embassy said it officially replied to the charges some days ago.

Sudan widens search for oil

CAIRO, March 18 (R) — Sudan has joined the list of African countries where a widening search for oil has turned up discoveries which, although tiny by world standards, hold out hopes of transforming the domestic economy.

A Radio Omdurman report, confirmed by the Standard Oil Company of California (SOCAL), said Tuesday night the U.S. oil giant's local subsidiary had found oil in the southern Sudan. SOCAL said exploratory drilling indicated sufficient reserves to produce 10,000 barrels per day (BPD) for more than 10 years. This seems insignificant compared with 10 million BPD produced by Saudi Arabia, but would be enough to supply a planned local refinery.

At current prices, it would save Sudan about \$120 million a year, a substantial sum for a country with limited export earnings where heavy reliance on oil imports has resulted in a shortage of foreign exchange.

Four African countries, Algeria, Gabon, Libya and Nigeria belong to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

nuclear stations, to be built in the Alexandria area, the Egyptian sources said. Cairo is optimistic that the talks with the U.S. will be concluded successfully, the sources noted.

Egypt's commitment to the development of nuclear energy dates back to the early 1970s, when the government decided that its economic development strategies would require additional energy supplies. Comparative studies at that time convinced the government that nuclear power generating facilities would be a cost-effective way to develop that energy.

In 1977, Egyptian officials projected that by the year 2000, nuclear plants would probably supply about 40 per cent of Egypt's total power generating capacity.

Bahrain unveils \$350m project

MANAMA, Bahrain, March 18 (Agencies) — The ruler of Bahrain, Sheikh Issa bin Salman Al Khalifa unveiled a plaque Wednesday to initiate work on a \$350 million petrochemical complex building as a joint venture between Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain.

The ceremony at the sea-side site south of the oil refinery's tanker loading terminal was attended by the Saudi Arabian minister for electricity and industry, Dr. Ghazi Algosaihi and Kuwaiti oil minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa al Sabah.

The venture, known as the Gulf Petrochemical Company, represents the largest single investment ever in Bahrain. The cost will be shared equally by the three countries.

When the complex comes on stream early in 1984 it will consist of two processing plants — one for the production of 1,000 metric tons of ammonia a day and another for as much metric tons of methanol.

Bahrain's abundant supply of natural gas will be used as raw material.

Main construction contracts have still to be awarded, but prequalification documents of selected firms were due to be submitted here this week. Those invited will have until July or August to prepare tenders.

Award of contracts for dredging and reclamation work involving creation of 600,000 square meters of artificial island in the sea and a causeway to the shore are expected shortly.

Tenders have been submitted by 11 companies, including three local firms.

"This project symbolizes the culmination of 40 years of experience of the three countries in the field of oil and petrochemicals", said the Bahrain minister of industry and planning, Youssef Shirawi, in a speech at the foundation-stone-laying ceremony.

The Kuwaiti oil minister said the project will be the forerunner of wide-scale economic cooperation programs between the three countries and economic integration ventures among the Gulf countries as a whole.

The Chairman of the Board of the Company Dr. Tawfik Al Moayid said the project will have a storage capacity equivalent to 40 days of continuous production and a work force of between 300 and 400 men with special emphasis on the training of Gulf nationals.

The company started as a joint venture between Bahrain and Kuwait. When Saudi Arabia joined in the capital was raised to BD60 million divided into three equal shares.

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At KAU final conference

Islamic medical influence highlighted

By Ayman Abdullah Zahid

JEDDAH, March 18 — The Sixth Medical Congress discussed in its final session, the relation of the holy Quran with modern medicine.

A study presented by Dr. Kitei dealt with the holy book and the teachings of Prophet Muhammad so as to acquaint foreign doctors with the relation between Islamic and modern medicine.

"Most physicians have little knowledge in this subject," Dr. Kitei said. "This subject contains a joint Islamic-Christian culture, and I have clarified the view of Islam regarding some sensitive medical issues," he added.

The study dealt with the Islamic viewpoint on various health and medical issues such as alcohol, drugs, smoking, abortion, surgery, euthanasia, suicide and preventive medicine.

Dr. Kitei said the study is intended to show foreign medicine men that Islam is a religion that encourages education and knowledge.

He added that Islam mentions a very important medical issue, the quarantine.

Islam has applied this method before the modern medicine discovered it, he said. When plague started in an area, Prophet Muhammad advised that nobody was to enter the affected area and none of its residents should be allowed out. "That is the basic principle of quarantine," Dr. Kitei said.

The final session of the seminar, organized by King Abdul Aziz University's Faculty of Medicine, also discussed medical education in the Kingdom and health aspects in the pilgrimage.

Prof. Lehman, chairman of the board of trustees of Seattle Washington University, told *Arab News* that KAU's faculty of medicine signed an agreement with Seattle Washington University for improving the medical standards in the faculty.

Prof. Lehman said the U.S. university will depute professors to work with the Jeddah faculty's staff. The agreement was signed

three months ago. "We will try to develop the KAU faculty of medicine and make it among the international faculties," he added, "we will put all our experience at its disposal."

The professor said that he had visited the university hospitals and was impressed with its technical and human potential. However, it needs improvement to achieve the standard of international teaching hospitals.

Among the other issues discussed was the health aspect of pilgrimage. Dr. Fuad Zahran, Dr. Hamad Bashir, Dr. Zuhair Al-Sibae and Dr. Tawfiq Al-Tamimi took part in the discussions. Three researchers were presented by Dr. Hisham Al-Dabbagh, on the last pilgrimage season; Dr. Hammam Muhammad Hammam, on the general health conditions of the 1976 pilgrimage; and Dr. Sadiq reported on the rate of parasite diseases occurrence in the 1979 Haj season.

Other speakers included Dr. Rosinski, of California University; Dr. Anne Knifes, and Dr. M.M. Style.

In Kingdom

New Zealand increases export efforts

By Habib Rahaman

JEDDAH, March 18 — New Zealand is stepping up its export drive to the Kingdom by increasing the range and quantity of the products it can offer the local market.

Last month a delegation representing the New Zealand Meat Exporters' Council and Meat Producers Board visited the country to

assess its market potential. "But there is still a lot to be learned," according to Warren Head, a New Zealand journalist who followed the delegations to the Kingdom and other countries in the region.

Head told *Arab News* that New Zealand has not yet fully explored the Kingdom's markets mainly because of its ignorance of the market potential in the Arab world.

According to him, importers in the Arabian Gulf have not yet realized the high quality of frozen and chilled meat, for which New Zealand is well-known. Nevertheless, the lamb meat export to the Kingdom have shown a marked increase from 1,601 tons in 1979 to 11,175 tons in 1980. To emphasize that the trade with the Kingdom is picking up, he gave examples of joint projects in the fields of cold storage, construction of office blocks and workshops — mainly in the Eastern Province.

Head said that New Zealand, has imported oil from OPEC countries to the tune of 93 million dollars (NL) in 1973. The oil bill touched 1,500 million dollars (NL) mark this year. To offset the deficit balance, the New Zealand government introduced an incentive scheme for exporters. It liberalized law to attract foreign investment. The result is that many Saudi Arabian businessmen have invested in farming. Even banks have come forward with attractive terms.

He said that this year for the first time four Saudi Arabians have come to New Zealand to do post-graduate course in medicine. Though it is a small beginning in the educational field, it augurs well for the future he said. To step up efforts to capture wider markets, New Zealand has opened a trade commission in Bahrain. He said nearly 200 professionals are working at present in the Kingdom. His country, he said, is ready to offer consultancy services in the field of agriculture, his country's main occupation.

Prayer Times

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Fajr (Dawn)	5.01	5.02	4.33	4.20	4.45	5.14
Dhuhr (Noon)	12.29	12.29	12.01	11.48	12.12	12.42
Asr (Evening)	3.53	3.53	3.27	3.14	3.38	4.08
Maghreb (Sunset)	6.32	6.33	6.04	5.51	6.16	6.45
Isha (Night)	8.02	8.03	7.34	7.21	7.46	8.15

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Solaim urges joint ventures with Japanese

Tokyo Bureau

TDKYO, March 18 — Saudi Arabia's Minister of Commerce Dr. Solaiman Solaim invited Japanese businessmen and industrialists to take part with Saudi Arabian counterparts in setting up joint ventures in the Kingdom.

Solaim who is visiting Japan at the invitation of the Minister for International Trade and Industry Rokusuke Tanaka told a group

of businessmen that Saudi Arabia welcomed their investments in agriculture, food processing and distribution and other services of small to medium sizes.

After meeting with Tanaka Solaim flew to Matsuyama to visit an orange juice packing factory which exports 40 per cent of its production to the Middle East.

After returning here he and his delegation will have additional talks with Japanese officials and businessmen about increasing coop-

eration between the two private sectors.

He also visited a school where the children presented him with 25 watercolor paintings for Saudi Arabian children and inspected a center for the handicapped which is known worldwide for its special care of retarded children.

Meanwhile, the ministry of trade and industry said it was sending two energy experts to Riyadh to explain Japan's energy position and requirements.

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Railroad transportation begins to pick up steam

YADH, March 18 (AP) — Railways are in favor in Saudi Arabia as vital transportation for the current five-year development plan.

A government last week signed a \$4-million contract with eight international consortia for the 382-kilometer Dammam railway project.

The six-track, two-way railway was divided into eight sections, with each consortium building one. Target date for completion of project is March 1983, officials said.

Part of the general development of the kingdom, huge new industrial zones are located at Jubail on the Gulf and on the Red Sea, each of which will require townships housing up to

400,000 people.

Air transport services and roads simply cannot cope with the vast amount of materials and immense numbers of people already on the move. Top priority has been accorded the rail link between the Gulf port of Dammam and Riyadh, where \$72.7 million has been spent on a complex of marshalling yards, customs offices and administrative buildings.

Known as Riyadh dry port, it is coming into operation as the first inland terminal in the Kingdom. The project envisages containers and break-bulk cargo loaded straight from ship to train at Dammam and carried to Riyadh for clearance.

Last July, an 18-coach, fully air-conditioned luxury train built by the Swiss firm Schindler-Schueren at a cost of \$1.2 million was put into service on the existing Riyadh-Dammam line, 100 kilometers longer than the planned one.

The train can carry 1,000 passengers at a time and is weather-proofed against the searing sandstorms of the Eastern Province. Tenders also were out recently for railway line between Dammam and the Jubail industrial center, 80 kilometers to the north.

This will not be merely for domestic use. It is part of Saudi Arabia's contribution to a provisional agreement signed in 1978 in Baghdad by Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates to build a railway line down the Arabian side of the Gulf which would link up with the Iraqi main-line system.

This in its turn is to connect with Syria and through Turkey to the European network. Doha, capital of Qatar, would be served by a branch line. Officials of Kuwait and Iraq have since been constantly in contact to discuss the section across Kuwait from Iraq to the Saudi frontier.

Transmark, British rail's consultant, was engaged 18 months ago to prepare a feasibility study on the project.

Within Kuwait there would be a vital spur line to the UAE's two ports of Mina Shuaiba and Mina Shuwaik. The necessity for this has been pointed out by the Iraq-Iran war, with Kuwait's ports becoming clogged with Iraq-bound goods.

From Kuwait's frontier with Saudi Arabia to Jubail is about 220 kilometers. The UAE's interest in the project was reiterated in January 1980, when a Kuwaiti-UAE joint commission stressed that a Gulf Railway was a priority project.

With the Iraqi-Iranian war in mind, and fears of a closure of the Straits of Hormuz shipping route by no means allayed, officials feel it would be logical for the railway to be extended to the Gulf of Oman, lying south of Hormuz, where a number of new ports already are operating.

In Saudi Arabia, a committee composed of the Saudi, Jordanian and Syrian transport ministers decided earlier this March to defer plans to rebuild the Hejaz Railway owing to the high cost of the project.

The Saudi Arabian minister was quoted then as saying that in the long term the project was an "excellent proposition and would at a later stage be included in the development program of the three countries."

Further studies were still needed. An estimate made two years ago put the cost of the project at \$500 million. The three ministers had before them a feasibility study prepared by the German firm Dorsch Consult, assisted by the German State Railways, at a cost of \$4.5 million.

The 1,300-kilometer Hejaz Railway originally was built by the Ottoman rulers of Turkey and opened in 1908. It ran from Damascus, Syria, to Medina, Saudi Arabia, but has lain derelict since the first world war, when it was repeatedly sabotaged by Arab nationalists led by Col. T.E. Lawrence.

The present German study suggests it should be rebuilt to standard gauge, with branch lines to the Red Sea port city of Jeddah and Riyadh, the capital.



TRAIN TIME: Railroad cars sit on the Dammam railway depot in the Eastern Province. With new work being undertaken on local railroads, Dammam soon will be a busy transport center.

Indian trade fair draws near

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 18 — With more than 200 companies taking part, the planned Indian Trade Fair here promises to be one of the largest ever organized in the Kingdom.

It will be held at the Jeddah Expo Center Tuesday March 24 to April. Mecca Governor Prince Mahed will dedicate the exhibition.

"It is the biggest such effort made by the Indian government", according to Kamal Shah, Sharma, counsellor, Indian embassy here. The list of companies and the goods and wares they will be exhibiting will offer the visitors a virtual Indian bazaar because it will include bedsheets and electrical goods, pots, pans and jewelry in a determined Indian drive to capture part of the lucrative Saudi Arabian market through goods sold at competitive prices.

In an address on the occasion, the Chairman of the Trade Fair Authority of India, Muhammad Yunus said that the Kingdom has been the source of spiritual inspiration for millions in India and has now become a significant supplier of fertilizers, petroleum products and organic chemicals. Indian industries have been striving to diversify their exports to the Kingdom and the trade fair will be such an endeavor, he said.

Yunus said that an important feature of this growth of trade is the diversification in commodity composition of Indian exports to Saudi Arabia. "Traditional commodities are still important at 38 per cent of the total, but are increasingly giving way to manufactured and engineering goods" he said. Saudi Arabia is the third largest market of engineering goods exported worldwide.

Smallest watch to arrive soon

By Javid Hassan

JEDDAH, March 18 — The Citizen Watches Ltd. will shortly introduce the world's smallest lady quartz (120 cubic mm.), which will also be the most accurate watch. Another watch to be introduced in the Kingdom will be a digital watch costing around SR 70.

Masao, Itoh, director, Citizen Trading Company (Tokyo) told *Arab News* that the introduction of the new watch is part of a concerted drive to penetrate the Middle East market which at present is dominated by other watches of Japanese make.

Itoh arrived in Jeddah Tuesday along with Kanji Tsukamoto, deputy managing director, Citizen Watches (H.K.) Ltd.; Toshio Suzuki, sales manager for Middle East and Africa; and Tetsuji Yamada, general manager, Al Sabah Trading and Contracting Establishment. The businessmen were here on the second leg of their tour which took them to Dubai where a dealers' convention was held.

A similar convention was called at Nova Park hotel here to map the future strategy for the sale of Citizen watches. The convention, organized by Al Sabah Trading and Contracting Establishment, was attended by watch dealers from the Western Province. This was the first such meeting to mark the completion of one year since the take-over of Al Sabah Trading Company by the Citizen group.

Arab exhibit begins

MANHATTAN, Kansas, March 18 — "Arabian Reflections," an exhibit of artifacts from Saudi Arabia, now is on display in the lobby of Farrell Library at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, according to John Vander Velde, special projects librarian.

The exhibit which will run until April 15, is sponsored by the women's section of the Organization of Arab Students at Kansas State and was arranged by Reem Mutwalli and Haytham Alsahli, a Kansas State University press bulletin said.

COMMENT

By Abdullah Idris
Al Bilad

Whenever I reflect on the achievements of our armed forces and the men responsible for their achievements and progress, I immediately feel that those who know the history of this country will recall that the army of King Abdul Aziz, which had opened a new page in the nation's history, did not use artillery, tanks and planes to fight with.

Despite this, his army fought heroically and made history of its chivalrous performances. His army neither played with history nor tried to dispossess the people of their capabilities and resources. It was, in fact, a refined army.

Also those familiar with King Abdul

Aziz's epic of unifying the vast land, must be aware that for the first time, there was an army which really sought and worked for peace. The army he led was all the time busy sowing the seeds of peace and tranquility in the vast span of the Arabian desert which was then replete with dissensions, rivalries and hatred among the tribes. The army worked hard and excelled in its performance and its characteristic sense of belonging to the nation.

It was as a result of his army's tireless efforts that we find unity, peace and stability prevailing in every nook and cranny of the country. We feel duty-bound to remember its sacrifices with a sense of gratitude and admiration, as we feel happy to see our armed forces now equipped with sophisticated machinery for the defense of the faith and the nation.

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Within a few months

U.S. to complete sea law review

UNITED NATIONS, March 18 (R) — The United States, accused of delaying the work of the U.N. law of the sea conference, said Wednesday it hoped to complete its review of the present draft treaty within a few months.

James Malone, newly-appointed head of the U.S. delegation, was addressing the conference after the Soviet Union and develop-

ing countries had criticized a U.S. announcement earlier this month that it did not want the current session to be the final bargaining round. The U.S. is concerned about provisions in the draft treaty, worked out over the past seven years, which mining companies feel would hamper the exploitation of sea-bed minerals.

Malone said a decision had to be made on whether the present text was likely to prove acceptable to the new administration and to the U.S. Senate. "We do not expect the world to come to a halt because we have a new president and a new majority in the Senate. But it would have been fundamentally unfair and unproductive were we to shirk our responsibility to ascertain the relationship between this draft convention and the policies and goals of the U.S. government in the coming years," he said.

Malone said at the end of the review, which he hoped could be completed in a few months, the U.S. expected to have a definite

position forming the basis for its future policies.

Soviet representative Simyon Kozirev said earlier the U.S. had shown "a lack of respect for the international conference and for the entire international community," he said "a situation has arisen whereby one country, on a pretext of a change of government, has threatened a breakup of an international forum of universal character."

Ambassador Olara Otunnu of Uganda, speaking for some 120 developing countries, appealed to the U.S. to "review its decision to review the whole draft of the convention," and said his group still hoped the current round of meeting would be the last working session of the conference.

Conference Chairman Tommy Koh of Singapore said all the speakers had urged the U.S. to "organize its domestic affairs in such a way" as not to impede the progress of the conference or prevent it being able to complete its work successfully this year.

Panda taken to hospital

LONDON, March 18 (AP) — Ching Ching, one of London zoo's two giant Chinese pandas, underwent three hours of tests at a hospital Tuesday night for what officials said could be a recurrence of last year's mysterious near-fatal stomach disorder.

The 175-pound black and white bear was taken to university college hospital and examined under anesthesia by a radioisotope machine. A hospital spokesman said the internal scanning of the bear was similar to X-ray testing. Ching Ching returned to the zoo after the examination. There was no immediate word on her condition.

Her mate Chiu-Chiu was flown to Washington zoo March 5 in the hope of mating with Ling-Ling, the panda there, in an effort to produce the first giant panda cub in captivity outside China.

In March 1980, Ching Ching underwent emergency surgery when her abdomen distended with gas. After months of nursing, she returned to her cage in August in apparent good health. Zoo officials said the panda had been of the feed and was taken to the hospital because the radioisotope machine could not be moved to the zoo.

Brunei to join ASEAN

BANGKOK, March 18 (AFP) — Brunei is likely to become the sixth member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) when it achieves full independence from Britain at the end of 1983, a senior Thai government spokesman has announced.

The tiny Muslim sultanate will join ASEAN's next foreign ministers' meeting in Manila in June as an associate member of the group which links Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines, and will probably become a full member of the grouping in 1984, the spokesman added.

Another southern Asian country, Papua New Guinea, might also join the ASEAN conference as an observer, as it has done in the past, the spokesman added.

Machel sees hard times ahead for African nations

MAPUTO, Mozambique March 18 (AP) — President Samora Machel has predicted African nations are going to face "difficult times" during the administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and accused the five Western powers of complicity in the failure of the Namibia negotiations.

In an address marking the opening of talks with Sierra Leone President Siaka Stevens, who is chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Machel advised African states to keep a close watch on the political positions adopted by the newly elected American leader.

"With the new Reagan administration we are going to face difficult times," Machel said in his first public statement on the Republican government. "This is an administration which considers just struggles, the struggles of peoples for their freedom and independence, as terrorism," Machel did not elaborate.

Mozambique's relations with the United States already are strained by the Marxist government's expulsion earlier this month of four U.S. Embassy staff, and two wives, for alleged central intelligence work. The six also were accused of providing information to white-minority ruled South Africa which allegedly was used in its Jan. 30 raid on three houses used by black nationalists committed to the overthrow of the Pretoria government.

Machel also said the five Western powers — the United States, Canada, France, West Germany and Britain — were to blame for the unsuccessful Geneva talks held earlier

this year to organize United Nations-supervised elections in Namibia.

Machel said the contact group failed to pressure South Africa into a position that would lead to Namibian independence under black majority rule.

The president called for increased OAU support for the SWAPO black nationalist guerrilla group fighting for control of Namibia, and said Mozambique's support was "unshakable" despite South African attacks on Mozambique.

Sir Siaka, who left here Tuesday from Zimbabwe as part of his 10-nation tour of Africa, called for U.N. sanctions against South Africa for its stand on Namibia, and pledged support for any measures Mozambique might take against South African actions.

Filipino seamen freed

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines March 18 (AP) — Muslim fighters freed unharmed the skipper of a fishing boat and four crewmen held captive for four and half months on a southern Philippine island, officials said Tuesday.

The seamen were released in Tuburan town of nearby Basilan Island Monday, the same day unidentified men kidnapped Zamboanga businessman Cirino Paragas, 66, on the outskirts of this city.

Boat captain Armando Farinini, 48, and his crewmen were kidnapped for an undisclosed ransom last November 4 by Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) volunteers while fishing off Basilan.



ESCAPEE: A Sunday school teacher, Ung Sopha, plays with a pet after escaping to the border camp at Nong Chan in Thailand from a Vietnamese-run jail for political prisoners in Phnom Penh. He is the first Kampuchean known to have escaped from a Vietnamese-run jail.

Kampuchean constitution stresses party role

BANGKOK, March 18 (R) — The Vietnamese-backed rulers of Kampuchea after two years in power have just published their first draft constitution paving the way for outright leadership of the still shadowy Communist Party. The draft, issued by the Kampuchean news agency SPK, refers only to "the party", which has kept very much in the background in a country still recovering from an excess of revolutionary zeal by its former Communist government.

The pro-Vietnamese rulers have so far refrained from publicly stressing the role of the Communist Party's leadership. Probably a small membership and overwhelming popular suspicion of communism as enforced by former Premier Pol Pot during nearly four years of rule from April 1975. The pro-Chinese Khmer Rouge government was

oust in January 1979 after a massive Vietnamese military offensive. But Pol Pot apparently still remains leader of his version of the party in the jungle and mountain strongholds.

The Phnom Penh administration's version of the party is headed by Pen Sovan, deputy president and defense minister in the present ruling revolutionary council. He is generally regarded as its strongman and diplomatic analyst in Bangkok expect him to emerge as the publicly-acknowledged top leader under the new constitution. The constitution is expected to go into force after elections to a national assembly around the middle of next month.

Article 4 says: "The party is a force that takes direct leadership of the entire

revolutionary task of the People's Republic of Kampuchea." The draft charter is similar in several key respects to a new constitution recently adopted by Vietnam but there also appear to be significant differences in tone.

Both countries will have state leadership vested in councils of state headed by a chairman. Vietnam previously had a figurehead state president while real power lay in the hands of Communist Party Secretary-General Le Duan. Diplomatic analysts expect Le Duan will soon combine state and party leadership by becoming the first state council chairman. If the Kampuchean follow suit, then their state council Chairman is likely to be party leader Pen Sovan rather than the present revolutionary council president, Heng Samrin, a luckless figure.

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Say hello to
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Haig visit to U.K., Spain set for April

WASHINGTON, March 18 (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. will meet in early April with government leaders in Spain and Great Britain on his way back from the Middle East.

The visit to Spain comes after criticism in the Spanish press of Haig's allegedly slow and unbalanced defense of Spanish democracy in the midst of a coup attempt by right-wing elements of the Spanish civil guard. State Department spokesman William Dyess said Tuesday there was no link between the criticism and Haig's visit.

He said Haig, whose plane already was to make a refueling stop in Spain, accepted an invitation to visit Madrid on April 8 and 9 to meet with the foreign minister.

Dyess said that Lord Carrington, the British foreign secretary, invited Haig to stop over in London for discussions on April 9 and 10 before heading back to the United States. Haig is scheduled to begin his trip, the first he has made as secretary of state, on April 3. There are scheduled stops in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan and Israel.

The Spanish press criticism of Haig stems from a comment he made to reporters on the afternoon of Feb. 23 while right-wing forces held the Spanish parliament. Asked for his reaction on events in Spain, Haig replied, "We have nothing to say other than to say that we have been following the situation as it has developed. It is still too early to make any comments. It is an internal matter."

State Department officials said Haig was not issuing a policy statement but merely leading to comment on events in Spain until he had the complete facts. On Feb. 24, the day after the coup had been suppressed, Dyess offered the department's congratulations "on the strength shown by the institutions and leaders of Spain's new democracy."

President Ronald Reagan telephoned King Juan Carlos to offer his personal congratulations. But criticism continued to be leveled at Haig for allegedly not having offered a more positive measure of support for Spain's democratic institutions while the coup attempt was still going on.

Socialist Party leader Felipe Gonzalez, who heads the left-wing opposition in parliament, said Tuesday that Haig's initial comment had seemed to leave open the possibility

of support if the coup had succeeded. Gonzalez repeated to newsmen allegations which appeared in a Spanish newspaper last weekend that unidentified representatives of the Spanish far right had sounded out the Reagan administration about its possible reaction to a Turkish-type coup.

The liberal Madrid newspaper *El Pais* reported Sunday that Spanish coup supporters had contacted a Reagan aide in November and that they were told there would be no U.S. help to carry out such a coup, but that support was not ruled out if it succeeded. In its cover story this week, the liberal Spanish news magazine *Cambio 16* reported that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency had wind of last month's coup in January but did not inform the Spanish authorities.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman in Madrid denied the allegations. Both Spanish and American officials in Madrid denied reports that Spain had protested to Washington about its initial reaction to the coup attempt. They refused to make a direct link between the Haig visit and the row.



MUNICH CLASH: A protester tries to escape from the grip of a riot policeman in Munich late Sunday night during clashes in front of an uninhabited house after it was occupied by youths.

Coup attempt

Another general indicted in Madrid

MADRID, March 18 (AP) — Maj. Gen. Luis Torres Rojas, former military governor of La Coruna in northwestern Spain, has been indicted on charges of military rebellion in the abortive attempt to overthrow the Spanish government, the Defense Ministry has said.

Torres became the third general indicted in connection with the coup attempt which began Feb. 23 when nearly 300 civil guardsmen led by Lt. Col. Antonio Tejero Molina stormed parliament during a vote for the new premier, Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo. They held the entire government and parliament hostage for 18 hours.

Last week Lt. Gen. Jaime Milans Del Bosch, who sent his tanks into the streets at Valencia for a few hours after the coup attempt, and Maj. Gen. Alfonso Armada, former deputy army chief of staff and who

was once King Juan Carlos' chief military aide, were also indicted and charged with military rebellion.

Military sources said Tuesday another general, Brig. Gen. Leon Pizarro, a tank unit commander, is under investigation. Twenty-four military officers, including Tejero Molina, have also been indicted and more than 60 civil guardsmen arrested in connection with the incident.

Meanwhile, with Socialists and Communists protesting that the facts should be made public, Spanish Defense Minister Alberto Oliart went behind closed doors at parliament Tuesday to report on last month's abortive military coup.

The civilian defense minister's secret testimony was made before the lower house of parliament, whose 350 members, along with the centrist government, were held hostage at

gunpoint Feb. 23.

The Cortes (parliament) building was under heavy security Tuesday as the session convened. The report to parliament, the first since the Feb. 23 attempted coup was crushed on orders of King Juan Carlos, came amid unconfirmed reports of fresh military unrest.

The liberal newspaper *Diario 16* said propaganda urging a second coup attempt was distributed at army barracks around Madrid and delivered to the homes of some army officers. The newspaper said leaflets from self-designated "junta of central military coordination" also denounced the king.

The Defense Ministry declined comment, after saying 24 hours earlier any information given out that did not specify the name, rank and job of the officer giving it was "not authorized."

Bonn, Rome ministers hail U.S. foreign policy

BONN, March 18 (Agencies) — Foreign ministers of West Germany and Italy have said their recent visits to the United States had left them with a "positive" view of the Reagan administration's foreign policy.

Foreign Ministers Hans-Dietrich Genscher of West Germany and Emilio Colombo of Italy gave their assessment Tuesday in a statement released following talks here. "They further exchanged the opinions they both had formed during their recent visits in Washington and underscored the common conviction of the Italian government and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany that the foreign policy of the new U.S. government was judged positive," the statement said.

Colombo and Genscher were among the first allied foreign ministers to visit Washington since President Ronald Reagan took office Jan. 20. There had been concern in western Europe, especially in West Germany, that the administration's hard line against Soviet expansion might endanger détente and the extensive trade and cultural links between East and West in Europe.

During their meeting, Genscher and Colombo discussed primarily European issues, the statement said. These included agricultural problems, the situation of the economically depressed steel industry and the upcoming meeting of the European commission in Maastricht, the Netherlands.

Meanwhile, Genscher Tuesday rejected

recent proposals by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev on Eurostrategic missiles as "unacceptable." Reporting to a Social Democrat parliamentary group in Bonn on his recent trip to the United States, Genscher said the Soviet leader's proposal for a "moratorium" on medium-range nuclear missiles was incompatible with the position of the West.

He also rejected an earlier Soviet proposal concerning the withdrawal of Soviet SS-21 missiles currently stationed in eastern Europe to behind the Soviet Ural mountain range.

Bokassa aide reveals gifts to Giscard

PARIS, March 18 (AFP) — A detailed list of presents including about 200 diamonds allegedly given by ousted Emperor Bokassa of the Central African empire to French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and those close to him, was signed by the ex-dictator, has been published here.

The right-wing satirical weekly *Minute* printed extracts of a book by a former aide to Bokassa, Robert Delpey, entitled *La Manipulation* and due to be published at the end of next month, in which Delpey wrote: "In the course of practically all his meetings with Jean-Bedel Bokassa ... Valéry Giscard d'Estaing personally received numerous presents from the Central African head of state to the finance minister as he (Giscard) then was, then to the president of the French Republic that he became."

According to Delpey, the two most important gifts were handed over at Bangui while Giscard was finance minister and in France at a property owned by the ex-emperor after Giscard had become president.

In the Bangui transaction, Delpey wrote, Giscard received 36 first-class cut and mounted diamonds, two pairs of elephant tusks, objects made of ivory and ebony, and lamps made from ostrich eggs. In the other, he received about 100 first-class cut and mounted diamonds, the largest of them of 11 and 20 carats.

Revenge courtroom killing

German mother hailed

BONN, March 18 (AP) — Since she gunned down her daughter's alleged killer in a Luebeck courtroom this month, barmaid Marianne Bachmeier has become one of West Germany's best-known figures, touted by some as a symbol citizen frustration in coping with crime.

Mass circulation newspapers and magazines which normally dote on rock stars and royalty have chronicled the sordid details of the 30-year-old woman's past. Groups like the self-styled "Community of those interested in justice and equality," as well as private individuals have announced fund-raising drives to finance her defense.

Bild Am Sonntag, the largest circulation Sunday newspaper, asked its readers: "Is mother Marianne a murderer?" The paper said it received responses like this one from "Jo. T. Hamburg: 'This mother is no murderer. She exercised a right which this state no longer guarantees for its citizens.'"

The slim brunette, whose father was a member of Hitler's Waffen-SS, was arrested moments after she walked into a courtroom March 6, pulled out a small handgun and pumped six shots into 35-year-old Klaus Grabowski.

Grabowski, on trial for molesting and strangling Miss Bachmeier's 7-year-old illegitimate daughter Anna, died instantly before the stunned courtroom audience.

Miss Bachmeier was ordered held without bond in a women's prison near Luebeck on suspicion of murder. No trial date has

been set. "Was this a bad case of lynch justice or was it only the understandable revenge of a mother?" asked the magazine *Quick*.

Grabowski, a balding, bearded former butcher, had a long criminal record including sex offenses. In 1973 he was put on a year's probation after trying to strangle a 6-year-old girl. Two years later a judge sent him to spend a year in psychiatric hospital after finding him guilty of sexually molesting a 9-year-old boy and a 9-year-old girl.

Prosecutors claimed Grabowski abducted Bachmeier's daughter last May during a drinking bout and strangled her after she resisted his advances. The girl's body was found in a ditch, police said, with the stockings of Grabowski's girlfriend wrapped around her neck.

German papers also found plenty of details on Miss Bachmeier's past. As a teenager she was raped and her attacker sent to prison, a fact which defense lawyers may cite to explain her view of men. She had given up two other daughters for adoption but had decided to rear Anna, despite being unmarried and holding a fulltime job in a Luebeck bar.

Within a week of the shooting, Miss Bachmeier's friends claimed to have raised 100,000 marks, or about \$50,000, for her defense. Guenter Bock, a friend and head of the fund-raising drive, said contributions had come from throughout West Germany.

To combat apartheid

Nigeria seeks U.K. support

LONDON, March 18 (R) — Nigerian President Shehu Shagari, on a state visit to Britain, has appealed to his hosts to bring their support for South Africa's economy progressively to an end. At a banquet given Tuesday night by Queen Elizabeth, he attacked what he called "the obnoxious apartheid policy of the South African government."

He appealed to Britain's leaders "to take some positive action to adjust their economic policy and pattern of trade so that they may progressively stop supporting and strengthening the unjust economy of apartheid South Africa." The long-term benefits of trade with Nigeria and other African countries "far outweigh the short-term benefits derived from having economic ties with apartheid South Africa," he said.

The speech came at the end of the first day of a four-day visit by President Shagari which marks improved relations between Britain and Nigeria. Relations slumped in 1979 when Nigeria nationalized assets of the British Petroleum company (BP).

But ties have improved and Nigeria is now Britain's biggest export market in Africa, outstripping South Africa.

"It is also well known that Nigeria is the largest market in Africa, not only for British products and services but for many of the products of the EEC countries and the United States," Queen Elizabeth praised Nigeria's return to democratic civilian rule in 1979. "This demonstration of political maturity holds great significance for the future of Africa and of the free world" she said.

BRIEFS

NEW DELHI, (AP) — The population of India is estimated at 683.8 million, the nation's parliament was told Wednesday. Tentative figures from a census conducted in January indicate a population increase of 25 per cent since 1971, when a census estimated the country's population at 548 million, the house was told.

CHICAGO, (AP) — Six small children, ranging in ages from eight years to three months, left alone in a basement apartment called by burglar bars and gates on the doors and metal screens on the windows, died here Tuesday in a fire as firemen fought for 10 minutes to get inside. The children's mother, Evelyn Reyes, 29, told police she had left her home Monday night to shop. She was charged with six counts of endangering a child.

MEXICO CITY, (AP) — Three persons were killed and 18 injured in a fire Tuesday night in the top stories of the hotel Marie Cabal Sheraton, firemen and Red Cross officials reported. The injured, including three

firemen, were overcome by smoke and were rushed to a hospital.

MONROVIA, Liberia (R) — A Soviet diplomat has been given 48 hours to leave Liberia because he engaged in acts incompatible with his diplomatic status, foreign ministry officials said Tuesday. They said the expulsion order on Ivan Ivanovich Muzykin was conveyed to the Soviet Embassy.

KAMPALA, (R) — Guerrillas have claimed to have killed 76 troops on the outskirts of Kampala. Roadblocks were set up on roads leading north out of the capital where the underground Movement for the Struggle for Political Rights (MOSPOR) said it struck at Ugandan and Tanzanian troops Monday.

ROCHESTER, New York (AP) — Quintuplets — three boys and two girls — were born early Tuesday at a hospital here. The five babies were in satisfactory conditions, a spokesman of the hospital said. He said the parents were Timothy and Corine Beach.

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General Manager
SAUD ALI HAFIZ

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Uganda wages war on corruption

By Thomas Lansner

KAMPALA — "We have spared Kampala for two months," the big man at the microphone shouted to the crowd of 700 "traders and other interested people" gathered before him on the grassy city square in the center of the Ugandan capital earlier this week. "We have spared Kampala for two months because I want my facts right before I swing into action."

Col. William Omeria, a 43-year-old ranking officer in Uganda's National Liberation Army, is minister of state for internal affairs and President Milton Obote's personal choice to head an anti-smuggling and anti-magendo (black marketeering) drive. He paused: "What services are you doing for this country," he asked. "Are you contributing to destruction or are you contributing to reconstruction?"

The colonel paused again, and many in the crowd turned to the sound of singing voices approaching on Kampala Road, the capital's main thoroughfare. Forty grey-uniformed members of the Uganda police special force, which carries out Omeria's anti-corruption drive, marched into the city square carrying almost new AK-automatic rifles.

Even as the men took up positions around the crowd, Omeria leaned into the microphone and yelled: "We must reach an agreement today. I will give you two days to bring things back to your shops and sell them at reasonable prices," he glared at the crowd. "In Kampala, I can paralyze you in a matter of hours."

Col. Omeria, who fled Amin's Uganda in 1974, is happy to be in action again. But this time it is an economic war, an attempt to break the vicious cycle of smuggling and corruption which is strangling Uganda's efforts at reconstruction. "They smuggle coffee outside the country, get dollars, and bring back things," Omeria explained at his Kampala office. "They are government officials, police, customs officers, big businessmen and small businessmen. The 'things' the smugglers bring back include essential commodities, clothing, foodstuffs, and a wide range of luxury goods, from whisky to video cassette machines."

Omeria says he will spare no one in his clean-up, and claims already to have arrested 200 multi-millionaires, seven district commissioners, and five constituency chairmen of the ruling Uganda People's Congress Party (UPC).

"Some of these men are misusing the party," Omeria said angrily. "Even if you are UPC, even if you are police, you must respect the laws of Uganda." But even an economic war has its risks. Many threats have been made against Omeria's life, and he travels with a heavy escort of army, police and special force.

The operation against boarding and overpricing in Kampala is about to begin in earnest. "These businessmen are tricky," Omeria conceded with a sly smile. "But, we can be trickier."

The government's "tricks" will mainly involve rigidly enforcing existing laws which have been blatantly flouted during the breakdown of civil administration over the past several years. Tax records, import licences, and sales tax receipts will be closely scrutinized, and traders who have refused to cooperate with Omeria's "agreement" will face what he describes as "very serious consequences" (ONS)



THE DEADLOCK

Recently President Saddam Hussein of Iraq implied he was ready to aid any elements within Iran which wanted to pursue autonomy or even independence. He specifically mentioned Arabistan in this connection.

The statement perhaps reflects the deadlock the struggle between the two countries has reached, which neither the mediation of the Islamic countries nor that of the Nonaligned Movement has yet been able to shift. The pessimism about an early solution this has engendered is relieved only by the fact that neither of the mediation efforts has given up, and that, following statements of position from the two governments, both the Islamic and Nonaligned mediators are readying themselves for further effort.

Iran's publicly-stated view is that it will accept nothing less than a complete, unconditional Iraqi withdrawal. The Iraqis counter that their occupation of parts of Iran is for the sake of guaranteeing the security of their country and its people. Much blood, they say, has been shed toward this end, so that a step such as Iran demands will not be taken lightly. And, to Iran's argument that forcible occupation of land is on no account to be justified. The Iraqi answer is that Iran has occupied part of its territory for sixty years, and has rejected all efforts of peaceful settlement: Iran has now therefore to finally and bindingly cede these areas back.

The two sides thus see no way out except through prolonged struggle. But observers think that Iraq appears to be more able to sustain this than Iran, given the latter's internal divisions and economic weakness.

By Joyce Egginton

ATLANTA, Georgia —

In an atmosphere of rising fear and racial tension, blacks and whites of this southern city are working together to solve a bizarre murder mystery — that of the apparently motiveless killing of at least 19 black children. Murders began happening in the summer of 1979 and have continued at irregular intervals ever since, with the frequency increasing as the manhunt has become more intense. By the beginning of this year, 11 children had been found strangled, asphyxiated, knifed, bludgeoned and — in one case — shot. Seven more have been murdered in the past two months.

The latest victim was 11-year-old Patrick Baltazar, last seen at an Atlanta amusement park, who was asphyxiated and found dead in an office car park a week later. That same day, Feb. 13, in another part of town, the skeletal remains were found of an 11-year-old boy who had been missing for several months.

Last month a 19th victim was added to the list: a boy drowned in a river several weeks ago. His death was at first thought to be accidental, but further investigation has added the suspicion of murder. Two more boys, missing for some time, are also feared to have been murdered.

The victims have been between the ages of seven and 15, and all but two were boys. None appears to have been sexually molested and most seem to have died without struggle. Strangulation and asphyxiation were the methods most often used, the victims apparently having been surprised from behind.

The murder of two girls — one strangled after she

left home to walk to a friend's apartment, the other reported abducted from her bedroom — are thought by most investigators to be unrelated crimes. The pattern which persists is the steady disappearance of young black boys, unknown to one another, from various of the city's poor neighborhoods. All the bodies have been found outdoors, most of them placed as though the murderer wanted them to be discovered. Some bodies were washed after death and neatly laid out, suggesting that some ritual was involved.

On recent weekends hundreds of volunteers, blacks and whites marching shoulder to shoulder, have scoured woodlands and vacant lots on the outskirts of the city. So far they have found a variety of weapons, and one of the children's bodies.

Most of the murdered boys were spirited away in daylight, not far from their homes. A nine-year-old disappeared while walking to a local store to get groceries for an elderly neighbor, another on an errand to buy cigarettes for his mother. Both their bodies were discovered a few miles away, leaving the suspicion that these children were enticed into a car.

What baffles federal and state detectives is how, in the face of the city-wide publicity and constant warnings, it continues to be possible to persuade street-wise youngsters to accompany a stranger. The common bond between all the victims is that they come from that underclass of black society where fathers are missing, mothers are out at work, and children spend a large part of their lives on the streets. This has led to the widespread belief that the murderer comes in the guise of someone offering cash in return for a favor, or a figure of authority

such as a policeman. The recent theft of some of Atlanta's police cars has added to this suspicion.

The fear among Atlanta's blacks, who make up 52 per cent of the city's population, of how many more children may be murdered before an arrest is made, is matched by the fear of whites of what will happen when it is. Most of Atlanta's whites are hoping that the crimes are being perpetrated by one or more blacks. A white killer would only heighten the growing conviction among poor blacks that the deaths of these children are part of a racist plot to demoralize, even detonate, black society.

The recent resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan, the unequal racial justice still being dispensed by some police and juries in Southern states, and the heightening unemployment among blacks throughout the United States make the Atlanta murders part of a wider picture. Given the existing inequities, if the slaughter of Atlanta's black children is found to have a racial motive, then civil rights leaders have good reason to fear the kind of nationwide race riots which broke out when the Rev. Martin Luther King was assassinated.

Anticipating the possibility, Atlanta's Community Relations Commission has called upon the expertise of psychologists and race relations experts in preparing a contingency plan for publicizing the news of an arrest. "We realize that the way Atlanta responds will dictate the way the rest of the country reacts," said a commission spokesman.

Atlanta has so far been spared widespread racial violence. For the past few years the city's government has been controlled by blacks, while the financial and business sector remains in the hands of whites — and the two have adjusted, uneasily, to

one another. Atlanta's black mayor, Maynard Jackson, promised that "we shall not reduce our investigation one iota because of lack of money; we shall spend whatever it takes and find a way". The cost of the investigation to his city in additional police work is already approaching a million dollars.

Lately, because of extreme anxiety among black parents, much police time has been spent searching for boys reported missing after relatively brief absences. Murder hunts were started for two teenagers last month, one of whom turned up at a basketball game. The other was visiting his girl friend.

Letter to the editor

Sir,
I appreciate your coverage of world news and the articles selected for page six which contribute very much to our understanding of world politics. However, I wonder why you depend so much on Western news agencies which leads you to forget news of the Arab world such as the Iraq-Iran war and the interventions of the Soviet Union in Africa.

Yours faithfully,
Nur Elmi Halane
Jeddah

EDITOR'S NOTE: You deplore our dependence on the Western agencies while at the same time you appreciate our news coverage and the contribution it makes to your understanding of world politics. This is a contradiction that we find more than a bit baffling. We have been covering the war as well as other Middle East events extensively. One of our pages is devoted to the region, in addition to features and other stories.

Saudi Arabian Press Review

Newspapers Wednesday mostly led with Syrian President Hafez Assad's verbal message to King Khalid, which was conveyed by Abdul Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy premier and foreign minister. In a meeting with Prince Abdullah, second deputy premier and head of the National Guard, in Riyadh Tuesday. In a lead story, *Al-Nadwa* reported that SR8 billion would be the cost of the first stage of King Khalid military township in Hafr Al-Baten.

Newspapers frontpaged the oil talks among the Gulf Arab oil ministers which ended in Riyadh Tuesday. In a page one story, *Al-Riyadh* quoted Sheikh Muhammad Ali Al-Harakan as saying that, during his recent visit to Bangladesh, he noticed that the people of Bangladesh held fast to their Islamic faith and had great admiration for the leaders and people of Saudi Arabia. *Al-Bilad* gave front-page coverage to Crown Prince Fahd's approval of the creation of Jeddah Club, for which a report would be submitted soon to include the project's cost in the next year's budget.

Newspaper editorials generally discussed the Zionist repeated assaults on South Lebanon, as well as the European initiative toward finding peace in the Middle East. Some others dealt with the talks held by the oil ministers of the Arab states of the Gulf in Riyadh, saying that the meeting has provided a new vision of the oil strategy in the region.

Concerned with the Israeli attacks on South Lebanon, *Al-Yom* noted that the enemy's main concern seems to be to divert our attention from the fundamental demands. It said the enemies of Islam have only the object of creating a rift among the Arab and

Muslim ranks. The paper referred to the Iraq-Iran armed conflict and warned that it is a hostile plan to weaken the strength of Arabs and Muslims. It urged the streamlining of Arab and Muslim ranks, and said that the Arabs and Muslims would only delude themselves if they depended on the assistance of other forces.

On the same subject, *Al-Riyadh* observed that Israel's attacks on South Lebanon is a premeditated plan to realize its old dream of expansion. The escalation of the crisis is a prelude to that dangerous plan, the paper said, and added that it was time for Washington to move to stop Israel from creating further trouble in the area.

Dealing with the conference of Gulf Arab oil ministers in Riyadh, *Al-Bilad* observed that their meeting has given a new vision of the oil strategy of the states of the region. United under the banner of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Arab states of the Gulf would crystallize a new joint role and would prove to the world that the sublime spirit of Islam would reinforce Islamic solidarity, the paper said. It added that the region's political strategy takes its root from the leaders' belief in the importance of strong relations at all levels within the framework of unity and solidarity.

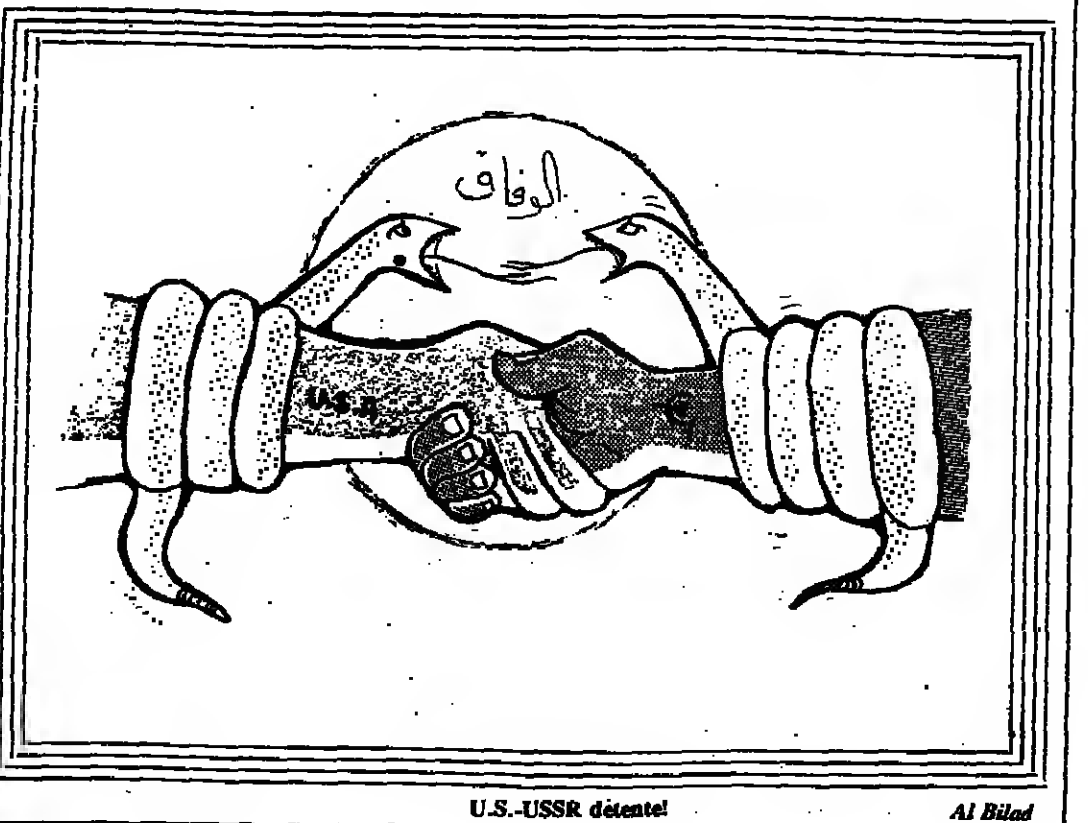
Discussing the Gulf Cooperation Council, *Okaz* reiterated that it would be difficult for ambitious powers to accept any new situation that undermines their dreams and ambitions in the region. The paper made it clear that not a single person in the region would be prepared to tolerate any western presence

under any circumstances. The people of the region are very clear in their mind as to why they have moved on to this step and why they are concerned for their cooperation and coordination, it added.

Al-Jadid dwelt on the European initiative in the Middle East and said that, since last year's European summit in Venice, many European leaders have visited the Middle East to acquaint themselves with the real facts. The European group, however, did not yet dare to announce its initiative, but preferred to wait for the announcement of America's new policy in the Middle East. Since west Europe is a strategic ally of the U.S., it cannot come forward with an initiative to settle the Middle East problem, the paper said. It added that the Arabs too are awaiting the announcement of the U.S. policy in the hope that it might help in finding a just and honorable solution.

Al-Medina dwelt on the annual week for showing care to the affairs of mosques, and said that the aim of organizing such week is to focus attention on the mosques and to maintain them as most suitable places for the performance of religious obligations.

The paper reaffirmed that the mosque plays a significant and fundamental role in carrying out the divine message and bringing together the people of one faith at one institution where every Muslim has the opportunity for receiving the best education. Although this is the age of institutes and universities, the mosque still plays a significant role in the upbringing of younger generations of Muslims on correct Islamic principles, the paper added.



مكة من الأصل

Arab News Diary

JEDDAH

By Raana Siddiqi

A SUCCESSFUL week-long Indonesian festival ended at the Hyatt Regency last night. It was a joint venture of Indonesian firms Garuda, Kent and the Hyatt. The evening was by invitation only under auspices of the Indonesian Embassy. An emotional group of guests not only enjoyed a variety of Indonesian dishes but also enjoyed a folkloric program presented by the children from the Indonesian school. The Indonesia ambassador and Mrs. A. Tayeb were giving personal attention to all their guests. The costumes, bamboo musical instruments, and other paraphernalia were specially flown from Indonesia. According to Pierre Bonard, general manager of Hyatt, this is the first of a series of food festivals to be held at the hotel.

MEANWHILE, the hotel is hosting a Chinese festival. Chinese food is being served and there is an exhibit of porcelain, paintings, and other handicrafts. Lucky winners may also win a ticket to China. The exhibition will close March 25.

UNDER THE AEGIS of Al Khairiyah men's Welfare Society, its President, Messrs. Faisal and Mrs. Nafsa, vice president of the society. The gallery boasts paintings and sculptures by famous artists including A.H. Redawi, Saudi Arabia's famed painter. It also has on sale reproductions of masters mainly about Arabian scenes. The gallery is on Madinat

road not far from the Hyatt Hotel.

AMBASSADOR of Sudan Lt. Gen. (Retd.) El Fathi Muhammad Basher Bushara gave a reception at Al Hamra Casino Saturday to say goodbye to his friends and colleagues. After four years' stay in Jeddah, he is now returning to Sudan to take up the post of a provincial governor. Good luck to him.

AMBASSADOR of Italy and Mrs. Alberto Solera also gave a reception Wednesday evening to say farewell upon their transfer from Jeddah. If popularity could be assessed by the number of parties arranged for the Soleras, they are difficult to beat. They leave early next month for East Berlin. Both of them will be greatly missed for their friendly and relaxed countenance and temperament.

JOHN SHIPMAN of the British Embassy also said goodbye to Jeddah this week and left for London to take up his new post there. Among a number of farewell parties arranged for him was the one at British Ambassador Sir James Craig's residence last Thursday which gave a chance for many friends to wish luck to John in his new assignment. His successor George Rolleston was busy renewing acquaintance with the old ones and making new friends at the reception.

TODAY IS the last day to see SET's production of *Three Sisters* at the British Embassy. Tickets of SR. 20 can be bought at the gate.

THE AIR FRANCE open tennis tournament will be held between March 19 and April 3 at the Lockheed Compound. Prizes include return air tickets to Paris courtesy of Air France.

AN INDIAN trade exhibition will be held at the International Expo Center March 24 through April 2 and will be open daily from 5 to 10 p.m. A wide range of products including heavy machinery, electrical goods, plastic and rubber products, crockery, cosmetics, furniture, textiles, leather goods, food items and a variety of other products will be on display and sale.

AL KHAIRIYAH Women's Welfare Society's international bazaar is planned for March 25 at its premises on Kilo 3, Mecca Road. This is an yearly event in which embassies and local enterprises participate.

It is a good chance to shop internationally at reasonable prices. Open to men from 12 noon to 2 p.m. and to women from 4 to 9 p.m.

AMBASSADOR of the Federal Republic of Germany Alfred B. Vestring will hold a reception to introduce Hapag-Lloyd AG, Hamburg, the leading shipping company of Germany, whose vessels are regularly serving Kingdom's ports. The reception will be held at the ambassador's residence near Hamra Road, Monday, April 6, at 8 p.m.

EASTERN PROVINCE

IRISH EYES WERE SMILING on March 17 at the home of Durwin and Maureen Ursey as a few of the Irish gathered to celebrate their national day, and reminisce about their Irish background.

INSECTS AND SPIDERS through the Far East is the topic for this month's meeting of the Natural History Society. The meeting is at the Oil Exhibit Theater at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 24.

THE UPM WOMEN'S group voted in a stated international state at their annual

election meeting March 14. Mary Tarazi, a Palestinian American, will be president. Maureen Doyle from Scotland vice-president. American Mary Tiedge secretary, and Hungarian-born Iby Vajda treasurer.

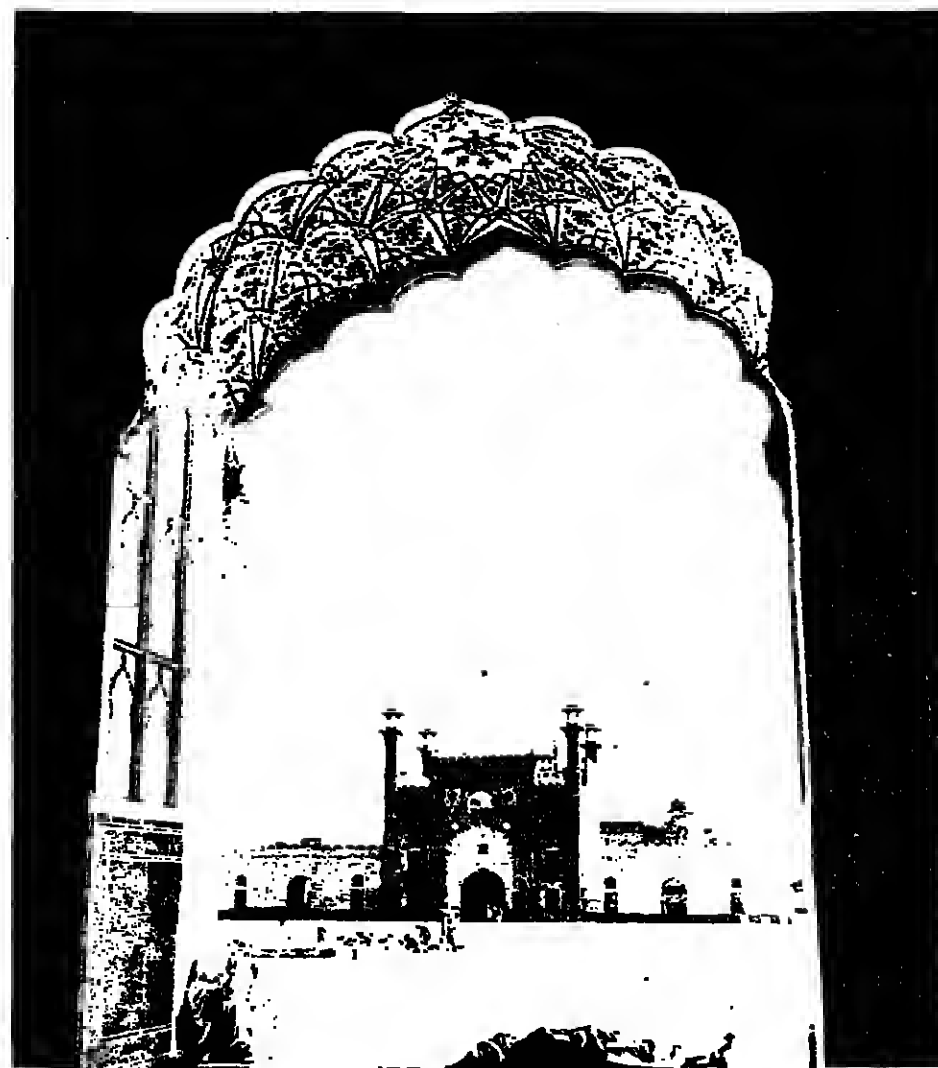
ENTRY FORMS are now being accepted for ARAMCO's open regatta, May 7-8. Hobies 14, and 16, Lasers, Sunfish, and windsurfers will compete. Send applications for entry forms to ARAMCO, Box 9200, marked "Attention: Martin Welby, open regatta." The forms must be returned before April 7, so it's time to get them now.

IN OTHER SPORTS news, UPM plays Imam Muhammad University in basketball, football, volleyball and handball this weekend. Kickoff for the football match is at 3:30 Thursday in the stadium, while the other games are held in Building 11. On Friday, March 20, local companies meet at the UPM stadium for 6-a-side football.

UPM'S DEPARTMENT of Architectural Engineering has been very busy the past week. On Wednesday they sponsored a lecture by distinguished architect William Minn, dean of the architecture school at Mississippi State University, entitled "Current developments in American architecture." They also presented an exhibit of student designs.

SWISS WEEK continues at the Al-Gosabi this weekend. Tonight is the gala dinner at 8 p.m. with the awards for the Swissair photographic competition, and the winners of the luck draw. Someone will also win a "piggy bank" of gold coins for guessing how many Swiss francs were in a container, courtesy of Foco Bank.

IF AN AMERICAN wins the "piggy bank" he had better rush to see Godon Rice, the tax specialist from the IRS, who will be at the American consulate until March 25 to assist American citizens in filing their annual income tax returns.



PRIDE OF LAHORE: Greatest architectural treasure in the city of Lahore is the Moghul Mosque. The people of Pakistan point out to it with great pride.

American houses reveal a blend of the past and present

By David M. Maxwell

WASHINGTON (SNNS) — The single-house, some maintain, is obsolete as other erstwhile icon of American life: the flared, chrome-plated, mini-mileage gasifier. Yet never before has anything considered so culturally dated been in more demand, more expensive or a better investment. Despite soaring mortgage rates and rising costs, the old home place is still a work of the American dream, albeit one in reach of only about 15 per cent of potential homebuyers.

Related reason for this demand, says architect Warren Cox, moderator of a recent American Resident Association lecture on the look, history and problems facing the American house, comes down to this: the home — like the inhabitant's — is often a tangible reflection of the culture, aspirations and, not infrequently, the actual appearance of the residents themselves.

What do these "residents" look like today? How are they changing to cope with the social realities predicted to become even more severe during the 1980s? At the moment, the house coming off the architect's drawing boards is a structure that is fresh and temporary, yet garbed with traditional architectural elements. It is a product of the modern design concepts of the 20th century but, geometric exteriors and open, spacious interior planning — hut with references to the past — perhaps shingles, classical columns or harniding.



LOOK: The front of this house in Pennsylvania has a traditional "telescope" look to blend with its surroundings.



DESIGNED: This award-winning house, on the West Coast, was designed by the Washington state architectural firm of Morgan and Lindstrom in such a way that it does not disturb its natural setting.

"The eclectic tradition of earlier periods, discarded for several decades, is reviving now," award-winning architect Robert Stern of New York says. "Architects are again turning to the past for inspiration." To a great extent, though this describes the "architect's house," one custom-designed for a client able to afford a bit of experimentation, one where innovation flourishes because the penalty for failure is small.

Other homes, of course, are on the market. And today, it seems, architecture is in a period of pluralism not seen since the Victorian age. There are solar-designed houses whose functional requirements dictate their appearances. There is a new interest in earthsheltered houses. There are houses with built-in whimsy that spoof earlier architectural periods. And there are the mass-produced houses spreading across the landscape, some of them praised for their design "bones" and others condemned for their "misuse" of materials and architectural styles.

This diversity, however, comes at a time when architecture and homebuilding are in the midst of crisis, the outcome of which is going to affect the way Americans live in future years. Just as the house of the 19th century reflected the lifestyles of that period with such features as cellars for food storage, verandas for summer nights and dining rooms to accommodate large families, today's economic realities are dictating the look to contemporary homes.

Because of inflation, high interest rates and energy costs, the trend is now toward smaller

houses, way down from the 2,000-3,000 square feet of the 1950s; and once again, generations of families are sharing the same home, says Charles Moore, former chairman of the Yale Schools of Architecture. "The problem of affordability is our biggest problem," West Coast builder Robert Fisher agrees. "We are seeing two unrelated families buying houses together, and in San Francisco, we are taking units and dividing them in half."

Large picture windows are no more," Fisher says. The windows now going into houses are carefully considered for function and location. For example, passive solar systems, so simple in principle, call for windows on the south side of buildings to catch the winter sun and depend on awnings and nearby trees to provide summer shade. Houses that rely on this approach still need conventional heating, but they may use as much as 75 per cent less fuel than regular buildings, according to a recent Worldwatch Institute report. And, by the way, those fashionable rooftop skylights of recent years are terrible energy wasters; it is better to install them vertically, preferably high on south-facing walls.

Leading architects and builders also contend that another factor — red tap — is pushing real estate prices skyward. Government approval processes can be so time consuming, says Fisher, that in one project where \$25,000 was budgeted for legal reviews and planning, the costs soared to close to \$250,000.

He believes that, as a result of these review delays, there will soon be a "back-lash" as those who will pay for "anti-growth policies" wake up and see they can't afford housing. "Some states already have enacted so-called 'anti-snob' laws whereby growth is permissible, unless it can be shown that a new housing project endangers life quality and natural resources. But Fisher concedes he has no answer to bow the delays inherent in the review process can be prevented or shortened.

Residential architecture today is being buffeted by still another factor — a debate within the profession over something called "contextualism," that is, how a building related and blends in with its neighbors. This thinking marks a break from recent decades when architectural "statements" shot up over the landscape, like giant ads for the originality and creativity of their makers.

"Like a lady," Washington based architect Hugh Newell Jacobsen says, "the best house is polite to her neighbors and never shouts." This debate aside, there are certain characteristics that Americans yesterday and today seem to admire and seek in their houses. "I think," Warren Cox says, "that Americans have a distaste for heavy ornamentation in their houses. In their heart of

hearts, I don't think they like all the elaborateness of European homes. Americans seem to like houses that basically are boxes with simple doorways."

Take a look at the earliest American houses, a simple, one-room "hall-room" of

the earlier attitudes of restraint that did not, Cox says, "tolerate showing off."

Now jump to the 20th century (the Victorian period was another matter altogether), and examine those severe glass and steel houses designed by Mies van der Rohe and

The extremes of this "international style" are in dispute now, but its basic concepts, linked as they are to simplicity, remain intact. "A house should deliver what it promises," says Jacobsen, whose contemporary residences reflect those themes. "Some houses,



TRADITION: A number of American houses are currently undergoing structural changes. The earlier styles, discarded for several decades, is being revived. Architects are turning to the past for inspiration. Architect Hugh Newell Jacobsen of Washington has incorporated the contemporary features in the above house.

the 17th century and the Cape Cod cottage built by the Pilgrims. They were stark, gabled-roofed, straight-lined with modest entrances.

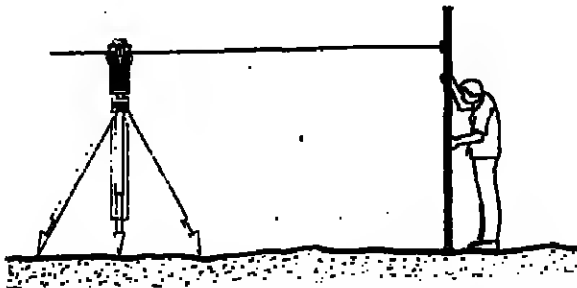
The later classic homes of the 18th and early 19th centuries, though more elaborate products of careful design, in large degree con-

his contemporaries who spent their lifetimes removing non-essentials from architecture. "More than anything else, Mies was a Puritan," Cox thinks. "He was adverse to ornamentation; his structures were linear, clean. They were successful because they were the attitude of this nation."

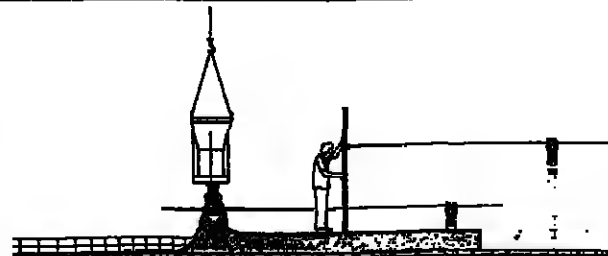
with their great doors and elaborate street image, but nothing beyond, make you wonder why you ever came in." Early architects had the right idea, he believes; they created "minimal fronts, leaving the surprises for inside."

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Celtics trounce Bullets

Philadelphia concedes lead

NEW YORK, March 18 (AP) — Philadelphia lost its hold on first place in the Atlantic Division by dropping a 126-120 overtime decision to the New Jersey Nets Tuesday in a game that was interrupted in the first half by a malfunctioning scoreboard.

The Boston Celtics climbed a half-game ahead of the 76ers in the division race by trouncing the Washington Bullets 112-91. Boston now owns the best record in the National Basketball Association at 58-17, with Philadelphia at 58-18.

Boston has seven games remaining. Philadelphia six, and they play each other twice. Whichever club finishes ahead will get a bye through the first round of the playoffs as well as the home-court advantage in every series.

Play was halted briefly during the first quarter of the 76ers' game when the lights on the overhead scoreboard suddenly began flashing uncontrollably and the horn blared for a full 15 seconds.

The 76ers blew a 15-point fourth-quarter lead in bowing to the lowly Nets.

In other NBA games, the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Dallas Mavericks 114-109, the New York Knicks trounced the Indiana Pacers 114-89, the San Antonio Spurs stopped the Utah Jazz 94-86, the Cleveland Cavaliers defeated the Atlanta Hawks 122-107, the Chicago Bulls downed the Milwaukee Bucks 116-106, the Denver Nuggets beat the Seattle SuperSonics 124-112 and the Portland Trail Blazers defeated the San Diego Clippers 127-112.

New Jersey tied it for the first time at 105-105 on two free throws by Maurice Lucas with 3:43 to play, and it was a layup by Lucas with 11 seconds left that sent it into overtime at 113-113.

The 76ers led 120-117 in the overtime period before the Nets scored the final nine points.

Celtics 112, Bullets 91: Boston ran away from Washington in the final period, outscoring

the Bullets 34-15 after leading by two points after three quarters. It was the 23rd game in which the Celtics, the league's best defensive team, have held their opponents below 100 points.

Lakers 114, Mavericks 109: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar scored 28 points and Paul Westhead recorded his 100th coaching victory since taking over the Lakers early last season as Los Angeles beat the Mavericks before 17,828, the first sellout in the history of the Dallas expansion franchise.

Brad Davis had 24 points and tied his club record with 16 assists, but coach Dick Motta was infuriated by the officiating.

Knicks 114, Pacers 89: The Knicks shot 57 per cent from the field in routing the Pacers. With 20 points apiece by guards Michael Ray Richardson and Ray Williams. It was New York's first victory in four games against the Pacers, their likely first-round playoff rival.

Despite the loss, Indiana clinched a playoff berth thanks to Washington's defeat.

Connors outplays Tim Wilkinson

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, March 18 (AP) — Jimmy Connors, secured a berth in the third round of the \$175,000 WCT Tennis Tournament here Tuesday with a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Tim Wilkinson.

In third round play, Connors will be pitted against 16-year-old Dutch student Eric Wilhorts, who upset Pat Dupre of the United States in the first round Monday.

In another second round match, Buster Mottram overcame sixth-seeded Hungarian Balasz Taroczy 6-2, 6-3, while Sandy Mayer, U.S., defeated eighth-seeded Bob Lutz, U.S., 6-3, 6-1.

West Germany's Rolf Gehring, who defe-

ated Bjorn Borg in last week's Belgian Open Indoor Championships, scrapped past Holland's Marc Albert, 6-1, 4-6, 6-4.

Other results: Wojtek Fibak, Poland, beat Carlos Kimmayr, Brazil, 6-1, 4-6, 6-0; Tim Gullikson, U.S., beat Kim Warwick, Australia, 6-1, 3-6, 6-0; Brian Gottfried, U.S., beat Chris Lewis, New Zealand, 6-4, 6-4; Fritz Buchning, U.S., beat Look Sanders, Holland, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3; Raoul Ramirez, Mexico, beat Manuel Orantes, Spain, 6-1, 6-1; Gene Mayer, U.S., beat Kevin Curran, South Africa, 6-2, 6-3.

Meanwhile, Bjorn Borg's agent, Robert Kain, denied Tuesday published report that

the Swedish tennis star is suffering from a potentially serious back injury.

The New York post said Borg, winner of the past five Wimbledon championships, had suffered severe back pains before and after a loss to Rolf Gehring of West Germany in a tournament in Belgium, that Borg had been treated in a Belgian hospital and examined by top orthopedic specialists and that he would be sidelined for as much as six weeks.

"It's grossly exaggerated," Kain said of the report. "I know he didn't feel that well, but it's nothing serious, nothing that's going to jeopardize his career. It certainly isn't anything earth-shaking. It's gotten blown out of proportion."

Kain, with International Financial Management, said Borg is in Switzerland and that the 24-year-old superstar is still entered in the March 23-29 Grand Prix tournament in Milan, Italy.

Last Saturday, following the 7-6, 7-5 loss to Gehring in the second round of the Belgian Indoor Tennis Championship, Borg told a reporter from a Swedish newspaper: "I'm not injured. What I need is more practice."

And Lennert Bergelin, Borg's coach, said at that time he was unaware of any back problem. "I don't know anything about it," Bergelin said. "He had never been bothered by such an injury before."

BRIEFS

BERNE, [R] — The Swiss government Tuesday announced it would give the International Olympic Committee (IOC) a special status to keep its headquarters in Lausanne, putting it on the same footing as other international organizations based in Switzerland. The cabinet granted the world sport body a status similar to the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the League of Red Cross societies and governmental bodies which are entitled to tax concessions and exemption from Swiss limits on foreign staff.

NICE, France, (AFP) — Belgian Jean Luc Vandenbrouke won the first leg of the

seventh stage of the Paris-Nice Cycling race but Ireland's Stephen Roche kept the white shirt of the leader.

MONTEGIORGIO, Italy, (AFP) — Giuseppe Saronni of Italy won the 183.7 km third stage of the Two Seas Cycling Tour in a sprint finish here ahead of compatriot Francesco Moser, Marino Amadori also of Italy stays in the lead overall.

OSLO, (AFP) — Horst Bulau of Canada won the 90-meter World Cup Ski jumping competition at Skiflar here Tuesday but Roger Ruud of Norway retained the overall lead by placing third.



THE CHAMP AND HIS MACHINE: Alan Jones drives his Williams FW07 down the straightaway just after getting the checkered flag as the track rescue crew at turn one cheers his victory in the Long Beach Grand Prix Sunday. (Insert) the champ is all smiles.

Minter on comeback trail

Gardner stops Ocasio in sixth round

LONDON, March 18 (AFP) — European heavyweight boxing champion, John L. Gardner of Britain took what he hoped to be a decisive step toward a world title match with Larry Holmes of the United States by stopping Puerto Rico's Osvaldo Ocasio in six rounds here Tuesday night.

Ocasio, who was knocked-out in seven rounds by Holmes in Las Vegas two months ago, appeared to have been counted out but the referee stopped the fight 19 seconds into the sixth round of a scheduled 10-rounder and awarded Gardner the contest on a technical knockout.

Ocasio, whose recent results suggested he was on the way down, sat in his corner shaking his head as the bell went for the sixth round and went down meekly when Gardner landed two soft left hooks.

He was understandably booed by the crowd who were unhappy with the way he quickly folded to the Briton's pressure.

Before the fight, Gardner's manager, Mickey Duff, was confident victory would seal a lucrative title fight with Holmes, but on this showing Gardner will have to prove himself against a harder opponent before taking on the WBC champion.

Meanwhile Britain's former world middleweight boxing champion Alan Minter is back in business. Although he needed the full 10 rounds to beat Ernie Singletary, an ambitious middleweight from Philadelphia, at Wembley arena Tuesday night.

It was a comfortable comeback from the thrashing of last September when he lost his world title and about a pint of blood to the American Marvin Hagler. Referee Roland

Dakin gave it to Minter by nine rounds with one shared, a judgement which did not seem to give full credit to Singletary's efforts in the early rounds.

Nevertheless, once the English boxer had settled down from a nervous start, it was never in doubt and a little more pressure in the middle stages might have saved him three

or four rounds work. Minter was making his return after loss to the shaven-skulled Hagler in three rounds in this same ring last September in a fight which ended in a hail of beer bottles from angry fans. Negotiations are underway for the British southpaw to try to recapture his title from Hagler in the United States.

FIRST SAUDI DENTAL MEETING

RIYADH (29-30 APRIL, 1981)

THE FIRST SAUDI DENTAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY, UNIVERSITY OF RIYADH, 29-30 APRIL, 1981. ALL DENTISTS ARE INVITED.

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COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY
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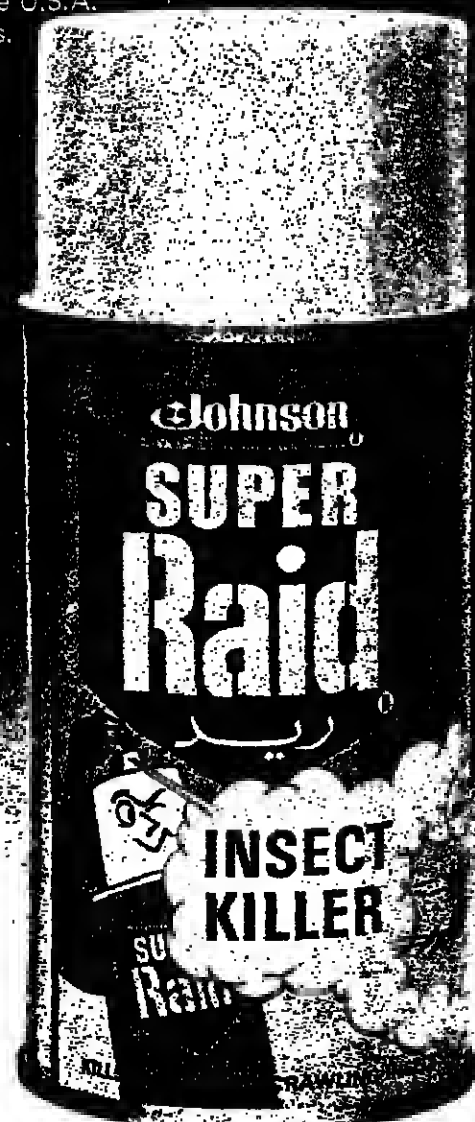
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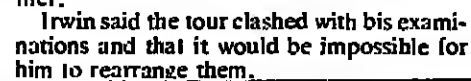


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Irwin said the tour clashed with his examinations and that it would be impossible for him to rearrange them.

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For EEC summit's success

Bonn urges end to fishing row

BRUSSELS, March 18 (R) — West Germany warned its European Common Market partners this evening that a European Economic Community summit scheduled for next week could be wrecked if the long-running dispute over fish was not solved. EEC sources reported.

They said Tuesday the possible consequence of a further delay in the fish issue was passed on to a meeting of the Common Market foreign ministers by Klaus Von Dohnanyi, West Germany's deputy foreign minister. The subject was the most difficult in

More U.S. banks cut prime rate

NEW YORK, March 18 (AFP) — Several banks, including the influential Citibank and Morgan Guaranty Trust, lowered their prime interest rates from 18 to 17.5 percent, following the example of three New York banks. Financial observers believed that the movement would progressively spread to the entire banking sector. Some analysts said the prime rate of some banks might be lowered to 17 percent.

a lengthy agenda facing the ministers Tuesday who agreed to discuss it only after West German insistence.

West Germany wants to unblock an EEC fishing agreement with Canada, of vital importance for its deep-sea fishing trawlers, which has been held up by a tussle between Britain and France over fishing access rights under a planned new EEC fisheries policy. The EEC commission Tuesday put forward new compromise proposals aimed at unblocking the EEC-Canada agreement which would give protection to the British fishing industry against cheap imports of fish from Canada.

But before the ministers went into private session to attempt to solve the stalemate British officials said they were not optimistic that any major progress would be made.

Meanwhile, France won a vague statement on Common Market grain exports from its EEC partners Tuesday night and claimed it could open the way for wheat sales to the Soviet Union. The statement was drawn up after hours of debate in response to a French demand for EEC action to deal with about 400,000 tons of surplus French wheat stocks.

But an EEC commission spokesman denied that there were any plans for the

European Common Market to sell wheat to the Soviet Union and a British spokesman said this was effectively excluded by the foreign ministers' statement. The EEC nations agreed in January last year to support the United States in its partial embargo on cereals sales to the Soviet Union following the Kremlin's military intervention in Afghanistan. Since then community wheat sales to the Soviet Union have been officially banned.

The foreign ministers' statement noted of the problem of EEC wheat surpluses and asked the commission to find 'appropriate solutions' within its budgetary limits.

France has said it would like to sell its surplus wheat to the Soviet Union. It told the foreign ministers meeting that this proposal would not conflict with the spirit of EEC support for the U.S.-led embargo because similar quantities had been sold to the Soviet Union in the past.

The cited sales of nearly 600,000 tons of wheat by EEC traders early last year, using export certificates available for sale to Russia before the EEC embargo was imposed. In addition, French officials claimed, EEC mills had sold large quantities of flour to the Soviet Union, using American grain and avoiding EEC import/export controls.

Iran's parliament votes for foreign trade takeover

TEHRAN, March 18 (AFP) — The Iranian parliament has voted to nationalize foreign trade. The move was provided for under article 44 of the constitution of the Islamic Republic. The government now has two months to submit a bill to parliament putting into operation the text adopted by the Majlis. The law, when implemented, will institutionalize a situation in which the state's grip on trade abroad is already very strong. This is due above all to the dominant role taken by the oil industry nationalized almost years ago — Iranian exports. In addition, since the revolution, the state has taken over a large share of purchases of food products abroad.

The banking system is also nationalized and foreign exchange control restricts imports.

However, the daily newspaper *Kyhan* International repeated Tuesday "criticisms of importers making 'excessive profits' while benefiting from advantageous conditions offered to them by the nationalized banks."

Japan tops

Shipbuilding suffers setback

LONDON, March 18 (AFP) — The serious plight of the world shipbuilding industry was underlined Tuesday night when Lloyd's Register of Shipping published details of massive reductions in output last year by yards in the United States, Britain, France and Spain.

Despite Japan's sharp recovery from its decline in 1979, total output, in terms of tonnage completed, as indicated in previous estimates, fell to a 15-year low of 13,100,000 tons gross (down 8.3 per cent compared with 1979).

Lloyd's Register showed that Japan, in fact, largely recouped its 1979 losses with a rise of 1,400,000 tons (28 per cent) to stretch its lead over its nearest challenger Brazil to more than 5,000,000 tons.

Brazil climbed three places to second with 9.5 per cent, ahead of the United States. South Korea gained three places to fourth following a five per cent rise (27,000 tons) to 522,245 tons.

The Soviet Union moved up from 11th to fifth, although information was incomplete with a five per cent increase (26,276 tons) to 522,245 tons, followed by Britain, down from fourth, with 427,122 tons (down 264,282 tons, 38 per cent). Spain with 394,588 tons (down 235,611 tons, 37 per cent) and West Germany, 376,192 tons (down 61,000 tons, 14 per cent).

Poland, ninth, lost one place after a two per cent (100,165 tons) reduction to 361,700 tons, pushing Sweden down to 10th, where completions were cut by 112,135 tons (24 per cent) to 347,500 tons.

East Germany moved up from 12th to 11th despite a nine per cent drop (35,000 tons) to 346,000 tons. France suffered the biggest fall, down from third position in 1979, to 12th, following a 60 per cent tons to 282,680 tons.

Only three ships of more than 100,000 tons were completed in the year, compared with nine in 1979. Output of bulk carriers improved just over seven per cent to

2,940,000 tons after the sharp drop in 1979 and represented 22.5 per cent of all tonnage complete (19.2 per cent in 1979).

General cargo vessel completions were sharply down at 2,690,000 tons (a drop of 35 per cent) and represented 20.6 per cent, against 29.4 per cent, but container ships increased 34 per cent to 1,370,000 tons.

Tonnage built for export amounted to 6,210,000 tons or 47 per cent of total completions. Flags making the largest additions to their fleets were Japan (2,730,000 tons), Liberia (1,710,000 tons), the United States (856,480 tons), the Soviet Union (814,640 tons) and Panama (706,506 tons).

Meanwhile, Japan remained at the top of the launchings table with 7,300,000 tons (sharply up on the 4,310,000 tons in 1979), followed by South Korea (629,250, against 478,700, tons) and Brazil (615,500) against 466,500, tons.

U.S. to grant Sudan \$100m

KHARTOUM, March 18 (R) — The United States has agreed to give military aid worth \$100 million and to consider increasing economic assistance, the Sudan news agency has reported.

The agency was quoting a message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan delivered Tuesday to Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri. But it did not give details of the aid. In an interview Monday, President Numeiri said his country was prepared to give the United States military facilities in Sudan if hostilities were imminent.

We also urged Western countries to step up economic and military assistance to developing countries as a deterrent to what he called Soviet infiltration. The Soviet Union was a cancer trying to penetrate Africa and only the United States could counter it, he added.

BRIEFS

LONDON, (AFP) The first shipment of butter, barley and beef, sold at reduced prices to Poland, has left Britain an official source said. It is part of the aid decided by the European Economic Community (EEC) in December.

NAPLES (AFP) — One hundred and six members of the "organized unemployed" movement were arrested after a violent clash with police in the Labor department offices, police said. The demonstrators Tuesday began to sack the offices after union representatives refused to intervene on their behalf with the government. Fourteen police and two demonstrators were hurt in the incident.

LONDON, (AFP) — Britain proposes to repay a 1974 Euro-Dollar loan of \$2,500 million dollars ahead of time, the government announced. It also said that it would discourage nationalized industries and others to raise loans abroad, by withdrawing its guarantee against loss due to sterling's depreciation.

BONN, (AFP) — West German farmers, unhappy about proposed farm price increases totaling just 7.8 per cent for the 1981-82 harvest year, are to hold a demonstration in Bonn March 27.

HARTFORD, Connecticut, (AFP) — The Pratt and Whitney aero firm has announced that it was laying off 600 employees because of falling demand for civil aviation engines and spare parts. The firm said this followed the cancellation of many orders by airlines.

Talks fail

U.S. coal miners set to strike

WASHINGTON, March 18, (R) — A strike by 160,000 U.S. coal miners March 27 looked inevitable Wednesday following the breakdown of contract talks between their union and management.

United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) president Sam Church said Tuesday night a strike was unavoidable, but that he hoped it would be short. Management representatives failed to appear for talks with union leaders Tuesday.

The UMWA negotiating team had hoped to reach a tentative agreement on a new three-year contract in time for the miners to ratify it by March 27 when the current contract expired. When talks began January 22, the union estimated the ratification process would take at least 10 days.

The latest round of talks with the Bituminous Coal Operators' Association (BCOA) broke off before dawn Tuesday and the union negotiating team waited all day for the owners to call for a resumption. At a press conference late Tuesday night, Church said: "The operators didn't bother to show up to negotiate, they have left a totally unacceptable proposal."

The major stumbling block had been the BCOA economic package and its proposals to replace the existing industry-wide pension scheme with individual plans operated on a company-by-company basis.

"We dropped our economic package from 51 per cent to 46 per cent, they raised theirs from 19 per cent to 20 per cent," Church said. "They cannot really expect coal miners to accept a wage boost for the next three years that wouldn't even catch up with 1979 prices." Church said the mine owners would have to come back to the table and that the union's next step was to wait for some indication of BCOA willingness to resume.

Church said the owners' final proposal would virtually eliminate the rights of coal

miners and that the union now had no choice but to fight. There has not been a peaceful contract settlement since 1964 and the UMWA has a long tradition of not working without a contract. The last round of negotiations resulted in a record 111-day strike in 1977 and 1978.

Meanwhile, members of the UMWA bargaining council, who would carry details of any agreement back to the union rank and file, were ordered home by Church in a move apparently designed to increase pressure on the owners.

Output of U.S. factories falls

WASHINGTON, March 18 (R) — The output of U.S. factories slumped for the 11th time in seven months in February, the government has said, increasing fears that the economy's recovery from recession is slowing.

"It is clear the economy is starting to stagnate again," said Lawrence Chimerine, chief economist for the private consulting firm of Chase Econometrics of Philadelphia. The Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. Central Bank, said the combined output of factories, mines and power companies fell 0.5 per cent in February, the first decline since last July.

Although economists frequently claim that one month's statistics do not make a trend they say that sustained declines in industrial production usually foreshadow either a flattening out of the economy or impending recession. In another report, the Commerce Department said the combined income of all Americans grew at a rate of 0.7 per cent in February, down from a one per cent pace in the previous month.

"This means the growth in income is not keeping pace with inflation," Chimerine said. "And we know this can't go on much longer without having an adverse effect on the economy." More troubling in the eyes of some economists was the rate of spending by Americans in February. Spending rose at a rate of 1.3 per cent, almost twice as fast as income was growing.

The Commerce Department figures revealed that Americans were choosing to send money they would have otherwise saved. This is frequently referred to as inflationary expectation which causes consumers to buy on credit or with savings because they feel inflation will put the products out of reach in the future.

SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Authority	Description	Tender No.	Price SR	Closing Date
The Ministry Agency For the Affairs of Public Works	Cleaning of the Agency Building & its branches in Riyadh	1401401	100	5.3.81
Ministry of Interior, The Public Security Department	Supply of vehicles separation instruments of crane transported entangled vehicles	6401402	500	25.4.81
Ministry of Defense and Aviation	Supply of engineering building and electrical instruments and requirements	60400401	200	18.4.81
Royal Saudi Air Force	Upgrading of power houses at the air bases	—	5000	14.4.81
Ministry of PTT, Saudi Telephone	Supply of timber miscellaneous ladders	310030	300	30.3.81
	Supply of test equipment to locate telephone cable faults	310070	500	13.4.81

PORTS AUTHORITY

JEDDAH ISLAMIC PORT SHIPS MOVEMENTS UPTO 0700 HOURS ON 18TH MARCH, 1981, 12TH JAWAL 1401

Berth	Name of Vessel	Agent	Type of Cargo	Arrival Date
	Elisabeth Oldendorff	aAlreze	Gen/Canned Goods	18.3.81
	Aligiani	Star	Reefer	17.3.81
	Dory	Star	Durra	14.3.81
	Yakov Bonderenko	A.E.T.	Containers	17.3.81
	Ionian Carrier	Rolaco	Bulk Cement	12.3.81
	La Cordillera	Alsaaba	Bulk Cement	16.3.81
	Meldiva Pledge	O.Trade	Sorghum/Maize/Timber	17.3.81
	Indian Goodwill	A.E.T.	Gen/Milk/Powder/Steel	15.3.81
	Corinna	El Hawi	Tiles/Marble/Contrs	17.3.81
	Mistral Universal	Star	Reefer	16.3.81
	Faro Cadiz	O.C.E.	Reefer	17.3.81
	Taxiaris	S'bokshi	Pig Iron/Timber/Gen.	8.3.81
	Warrior	S.C.S.A.	Bagged Barley/Wheat	13.3.81
	Ever Large	A'seib	Containers	17.3.81
	Benavon	A.E.T.	Containers	17.3.81

RECENT ARRIVALS:

Aligiani	Star	Reefer	17.3.81
Arab Al Hizaj	S.C.S.A.	Durra	"
Maldiva Pledge	O.Trade	Sorghum/Maize/Timber	"
Dico	Alsaaba	Contrs/Trucks	"
Faro Cadiz	O.C.E.	Reefer	"
Yakov Bonderenko	A.E.T.	Containers	"
Hellenic Invoitor	Alphe	To Load Empty Contrs.	18.3.81

KING ABDUL AZIZ PORT DAMMAM

SHIPS MOVEMENT UPTO 0700 HOURS ON 18.3.1981/12.5.1401 CHANGES FOR THE PAST 24 HOURS

1. Kmian Star	Gosaibi	Cord/Soya Meals	13.3.81
2. Maldiva Neighbor	Orri	Maize/Rice/Gen.	15.3.81
4. Taurus	Gulf	General	16.3.81
10. Tai Sun	UEP	Sugar	16.3.81
11. Marouko	S.E.A.	Bagged Barley	15.3.81
12. Ling Yang	Orri	General	15.3.81
13. Asia No. 11	S.M.C.	Gen/Steel/Plywood	12.3.81
14. Witlon	Gosaibi	Steel Pipes	15.3.81
16. Gattini	Highspeed	Bagged Sugar	4.3.81
27. Way Farer	Kanoo	Bulk Cement	16.3.81
27. Way Farew	Kanoo	Bulk Cement	16.3.81
31. Strathrie	Kanoo	General	17.2.81
32. Krishna Raja	Gosaibi	Gen/Bagged Barley	11.3.81
34. Kuchang	Orri	General	15.3.81
35. Meghna	Orri	Bulk Nontomite	17.3.81
36. Meghna	Orri	Bulk Nontomite	17.3.81
36. Psara Flag	Sabah	Cement Silovessel	4.1.78
37. Sihemanboah (OB)	AET	Bulk Cement	15.3.81
38. Fair Way (OB)	Globe	Bulk Cement	16.3.81

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:00 P.M. Wednesday

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	—	8.30	8.91
Belgian Franc (1,000)	98.00	112.00	—
Canadian Dollar	2.81	—	—
Deutsche Mark (100)	160.00	162.50	162.50
Dutch Guilder (100)	145.00	146.50	146.50
Egyptian Pound	—	—	—
Emirates Dirham (100)	—	91.25	91.40
French Franc (100)	68.00	69.00	69.00
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	—	—
Indian Rupee (100)	—	—	40.90
Iranian Ryal (100)	—	—	—
Iraqi Dinar	—	8.25	—
Italian Lira (10,000)	33.00	33.70	33.50
Japanese Yen (1,000)	16.20	—	16.40
Jordanian Dinar	—	10.55	10.55
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.28	12.28
Lebanese Lira (100)	—	84.25	83.65
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	72.00	71.50
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	34.00
Philippines Peso (100)	—	—	44.00
Pound Sterling	7.50	7.64	7.64
Qatari Riyal (100)	—	92.00	92.30
Singapore Dollar (100)	—	—	160.70
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	—	—	40.00
Swiss Franc (100)	176.00	178.90	178.90
Syrian Lira (100)	—	55.55	86.20
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	—	—
U.S. Dollar	3.35	3.36	3.353
Yemeni Ryal (100)	—	73.45	73.45
Gold kg	—	55,400.00	—
10 Tola bar	—	6,500.00	—
Ounce	—	1,740.00	—

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Iran may oust three defense council men

TEHRAN, March 18 (Agencies) — A senior clergyman and two legislators are likely to be ousted from Iran's supreme defense council under Ayatollah Khomeini's new formula for ending strife among Iranian leaders, the Ayatollah's office has said.

A spokesman said Tuesday Majlis (parliament) Speaker Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, a founder-member of the Islamic Republican Party (IRP), and two Majlis representatives would apparently cease to attend the body, which is headed by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

British diplomats arrive in Tehran

TEHRAN, March 18 (R) — Two British diplomats arrived in Tehran Wednesday to bring the number of British overseas staff in Iran to six, an embassy spokesman said. Stephen Barrett, formerly counsellor in Ankara, will take charge of the skeleton staff of four who have remained in Iran since Britain closed its embassy in the Iranian capital last September.

Iran executes two Zionist spies

TEHRAN, March 18 (R) — Two members of the proscribed Baha'i religion were executed in the southern city of Shiraz last Sunday after being convicted of spying for Israel, Tehran newspapers reported Wednesday. They said Mehdi Anvari Tafti and Hedayatollah Dehqani were convicted after a trial lasting several days on charges, including having contacts with agents of international Zionism and the "Israeli nest of espionage" a reference to the Israeli office operating in Tehran before the revolution.

They were said to have been members of the banned Baha'i national council and to have tried to turn people away from Islam.

Turkey-Greek talks make good start

ANKARA, March 18 (AP) — High-ranking Turkish and Greek officials went into their second day of talks here amid mounting expectations for a breakthrough in long-standing Turkish-Greek disputes over the Aegean Sea.

Stavros Roussos, secretary-general of the Greek foreign ministry, accompanied by a

top-level delegation of experts, met his Turkish counterpart Kamuran Gurun Tuesday in the eighth round of such meetings designed to tackle mutual conflicts. Turkish sources said there was reason to hope for a substantial outcome from the current round in view of a new administration in Turkey and a recent Greek removal of restrictions on flights in the Aegean Sea.

They pointed out that Roussos, who took over the job from Byron Theodoropoulos who retired recently, sounded optimistic and "well-meaning" in his statement prior to Monday's session. The Greek official had said he was in Ankara "not only to speak...but to achieve something."

The disputes between the two NATO-member countries center on the hundreds of Greek islands that bug the coast of mainland Turkey. The Greeks demand rights to the continental shelves of each island while the Turks claim much of that area is actually the continental shelf of the Anatolian plateau.

Court stays work on West Bank settlement

TEL AVIV, March 18 (R) — The Israeli supreme court granted an injunction Tuesday prohibiting construction work on a site for a new Jewish settlement in the occupied Arab West Bank until it decides "who owns" the land.

Twenty Palestinians in the town of Anabta on the main Tulkarem-Nablus Road appealed to the court for the order, saying their families had been cultivating the land for many years.

The Israeli authorities, who last week began to build an approach road to the site for a new settlement called Shavei Shomron "B" said the land was state-owned and uncultivated.

Meanwhile, the migration of Jews to Israel dropped last month to 857, its lowest level in 12 years, Israeli government statistics showed. The drop was partly due to lower numbers of Jews leaving the Soviet Union and to the fact that a record 83 per cent of Russian Jewish emigrants chose to live in the United States rather than Israel.

BRIEFS

KUWAIT, (AP) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was to visit Kuwait sometime next week at an invitation from the Kuwaiti Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah, the newspaper *Al-Watan* reported Wednesday.

NEW DELHI, (AP) — Babrak Karmal, Afghanistan's Soviet-supported Marxist president, has dismissed the mayor of Kabul, and appointed a woman in his place, an Afghan exile source here reported Tuesday.

ANKARA, (AP) — Iran demanded Tuesday the return of an air force lieutenant colonel and his wife who commandeered a cargo plane to eastern Turkey and asked for temporary political asylum, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

WASHINGTON, (AP) — American negotiators will head back to the Middle East later this month to try to iron out differences between Egypt and Israel over a Sinai peacekeeping force that would send American troops into the strategic region.

ANKARA, (R) — Six soldiers, including a non-commissioned officer, went on trial in Ankara Tuesday accused of killing a left-wing publisher detained under martial law last November.

KUWAIT, (AP) — Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul-Halim Khaddam left Kuwait for Qatar Wednesday, after delivering a message from his President Hafez to the ruler of Kuwait on the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israeli-backed shelling

UNIFIL chief's stand on attacks hardens

TIBNIN, South Lebanon, March 18 (AP) — Maj. Gen. William Callaghan, commander of the U.N. peacekeeping forces in Southern Lebanon, vowed Tuesday his 6,000-strong contingent would defend itself against further attacks by Israel-backed Lebanese Christian militia.

The Irish general made the pledge in a speech at a parade at on St. Patrick's Day staged by the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon 24 hours after two Nigerian peacekeepers were killed by shellfire from the "free Lebanon" border enclave.

"I must categorically state that UNIFIL will not be intimidated by such wanton and brutal acts and that the force will protect itself with the defensive weapons at its disposal," said the general who took over UNIFIL's command from Ghanaian Maj.-Gen. Emmanuel Erskine mid-February.

Poland going anti-Semitic, mourns Peres

LONDON, March 18 (R) — Shimon Peres, leader of the Israeli opposition Labor Party, has said that Poland was becoming an anti-Semitic country.

Peres, himself born in the then Polish province of Novogrodek which is now part of the Soviet Union, told a meeting of Jewish community leaders in London that "the horrible tradition" of anti-Semitism was reappearing in Poland as elsewhere in Europe.

Last week, a nationalist rally in Warsaw heard speeches urging vigilance to prevent what one speaker called "the next generation of Zionists" coming to power in Poland, he said. Earlier, Peres told reporters that although Europe had a part to play in bringing peace to the Middle East, the current Common Market peace initiative was "widening the gap, not narrowing it". The EEC initiative calls for the involvement of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in any peace process.

Habre forces kill

3 Libyans, 33 others

KOLBOUS, East Sudan, March 18 (AFP) — Chadian forces loyal to former Defense Minister Hissen Habre killed two Libyans and 33 government troops last Thursday during a battle at Wadi Barid, across the Chadian border near here, according to a statement by Habre's armed forces of the north (FAN).

FAN spokesmen in this Sudanese frontier village 1,000 kms west of Khartoum, produced the identity cards of the men to back up their claims. They said that three FAN soldiers were also killed in the action.

Mauritania snaps ties with Morocco

ALGIERS, March 18 (R) — The west African state of Mauritania has broken diplomatic relations with Morocco following Monday's abortive coup by two dissident officers, the Mauritanian news agency monitored here said.

Mauritania accused Morocco of complicity in the coup attempt in which two palace guards were killed. Morocco has denied the charge. The two countries at one time waged a joint war against the Polisario front challenging their partition of the Western Sahara.

But after a coup toppled Mauritanian President Mokhtar Ould Daddah in 1978, the government withdrew from its zone of the Western Sahara and made peace with Polisario.

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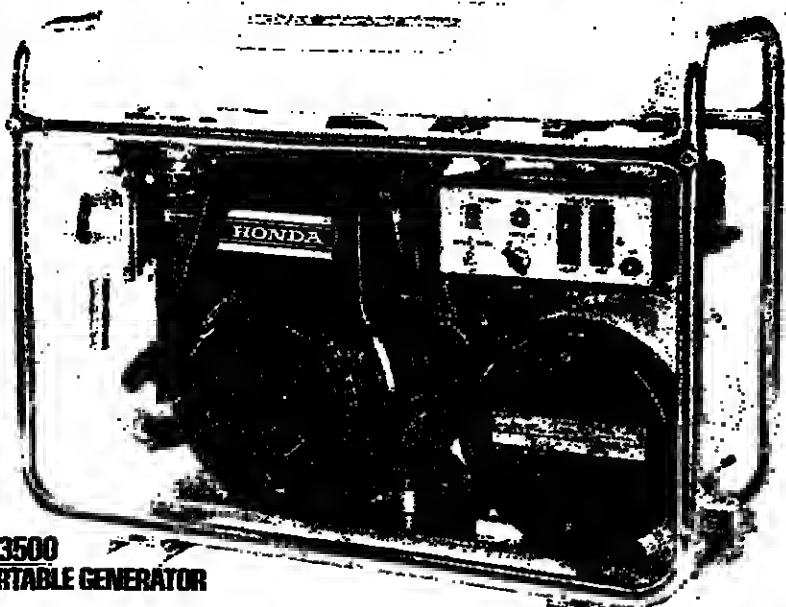
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Air force involved

Warsaw Pact units begin maneuvers

WARSAW, March 18 (R) — Warsaw Pact exercises involving military units from the Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia have begun, the Polish news agency PAP said Wednesday. It did not say when the exercises, code-named "Soyuz 81," got underway, but they had been previously announced for the middle of March.

The agency said the exercises involved the commanders of the allied armies and navies and special units and said they were being held in the territories of all four countries. Western defense sources said they did not expect any big concentrations of troops because of the nature of the exercises, which appeared to be aimed at testing command structures and headquarters coordination.

The Polish army daily *Zolnierz Wolnosci* indicated the exercises also involved some air force units. "We shall again be operating arm in arm on land, sea and in the air to demonstrate our unbreakable will be inflexible

experience in defending the frontiers of our socialist community," the army daily said.

Poland's Communist Party First Secretary Stanislaw Kania and Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski, who is also defense minister, met the commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Pact, Viktor Kulikov, and Anatoly Gribkov, the Pact's chief of staff, before the start of the exercises, PAP news agency said. Earlier reports said the exercises appeared to be part of routine winter training, underlined by the use of the code name Tarza 81 (Shield 81) which is often employed for regular Warsaw Pact maneuvers.

In Washington, the State Department said Tuesday Soviet assurances in response to U.S. queries and other information had eased Western fears that the maneuvers might lead to armed military intervention in Poland.

"As a result of all of the information that we have been able to acquire from whatever sources, our concern is somewhat less today than it was last week," State Department spokesman William Dyess told reporters. "There is less concern right now about the possibility of outside intervention than there was a couple of weeks ago, certainly last December," he added.

The statement marked a turnaround from last Friday, when Secretary of State Alexander Haig said he expected "huge" Soviet bloc exercises to begin shortly. Dyess said diplomatic contacts with the Soviet Union since Friday had led to the changed assessment.

He said the command and control exercises were expected to involve fewer than 25,000 troops, the threshold above which signatories to the 1975 Helsinki final act are committed to notify other countries of plans for maneuvers.

Meanwhile, Poland's 100,000 timber industry employees have threatened strikes next week, producing a new threat to the government's hopes last month for 90 days of labor peace. The timber workers' threat of a one-hour stoppage Monday and an all-out national strike Wednesday was announced in Wroclaw Tuesday night as the government and free trade union leaders from the industrial city of Radom reached an agreement, averting a threatened strike action there.

The authorities, who complained that they are being faced with new disputes almost every day, reported that no progress had been made in resolving a new strike by militant farmers in the northern city of Bydgoszcz. They are demanding recognition of a rural Solidarity union for private farmers.

Leaders of the timber workers said they were resorting to strike threats because Forestry and Timber Minister Tadeusz Skwirzynski had failed to fulfil an agreement signed last December 18. They gave no details.

Hostage deal legal, orders U.S. judge

BOSTON, March 18 (AP) — President Ronald Reagan and former President Jimmy Carter acted legally in releasing Iranian funds attached in U.S. banks as part of the deal that freed American hostages last January, a federal judge has ruled.

But U.S. District Judge Andrew A. Caffrey forecast in his ruling Tuesday that the Supreme Court eventually will have to rule on the constitutionality of the executive agreements involved in the hostage release. Caffrey ruled that the executive orders by Reagan and Carter cancelling attachments against Iranian funds in U.S. banks were legal and valid.

As a result, he dismissed a suit brought by a Cambridge, Massachusetts, engineering firm — Charles T. Main Inc. — claiming the executive orders unconstitutional. It blocked its access to U.S. courts to get funds it claimed were owned by Iran. Main claimed Iran owed \$2.8 million for engineering work.

Caffrey said Main must press its claim for the money in an international tribunal, under terms of the hostage-release agreement. Main had attached Iranian funds kept in a New York city bank.

S. Africa raids Angola base

PRETORIA, March 18 (AP) — South African forces struck deep into Angola Tuesday to hit what was alleged to be a black nationalist guerrilla base, the military announced Wednesday.

The announcement said the base was near Lubango, also known by its old Portuguese name of Sa Da Bandeira, about 300 kms north of Angola's border with South-West Africa (Namibia). It did not say whether the forces were taken in by helicopter or by road. A major road runs between Ondangwa, in northern South-West Africa, to Lubango.

A statement from the chief of the South

African defense force, Gen. Constand Viljoen, said: "After repeated warnings to Angolan by the South African government, the South African defense force yesterday attacked another SWAPO terrorist base in Angola, this time in the vicinity of Lubango. This attack follows murders and deeds of terror, perpetrated against innocent inhabitants of South-West Africa."

South African forces based in the South African-administered territory of South-West Africa have regularly launched raids into neighboring Angola to hit what it alleges are bases of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO).

All defense force elements returned safely to South-West Africa," Viljoen's statement said. "The RSA (Republic of South Africa) had repeatedly warned that all terrorist bases would be located and attacked, even if it should be in a neighboring country. These countries should therefore expect such action."

The statement gave no casualty figures for either South African forces or for SWAPO, which has been using bases in southern Angola to fight its 15-year bush war for control of the mineral-rich territory of South-West Africa.

An estimated 20,000 South African soldiers are in the territory to counter a SWAPO forces estimated by South African intelligence sources at between 6,000 and 8,000. Virtually all the fighting has taken place along the territory's border with Angola.



HOUSES IN A SHAMBLES: The scene of destruction of civilian houses in Ahwas after a recent Iraqi missile attack on the city.

Tank, destroyed, Iran claims

TEHRAN, March 18 (R) — Iranian forces killed 100 Iraqis and captured 60 in an early morning action Tuesday which knocked out 30 tanks near the besieged town of Susangerd, Iran's state radio said. In a separate action, the army and revolutionary guards recaptured the Shoghalvand Heights near the embattled border town of Qasr-E-Shirin, the joint staff said in a communique.

The radio said the anti-tank operation was carried out by revolutionary guards, who form a virtual parallel force to the regular army, supported by army artillery. Thirteen guards died in the action, it said.

It added that Iranian forces also captured 40 Iraqi officers and non-commissioned officers in an engagement which took "an

important strategic height" — apparently the Shoghalvand Heights mentioned in the joint staff communique. It also reported that an Iraqi fighter plane was shot down over the port of Bushehr Monday.

Iraq said Tuesday its forces drove back an Iranian force backed by tanks in the Susangerd area, killing 22 enemy soldiers. A war communique, quoted by the official Iraqi News Agency, said 66 more Iranians were killed in other fighting in the Gulf war in 24 hours.

It added that 11 Iraqi soldiers were killed during the same period. Military operations listed by the communique the shelling of Iranian positions in the Abadan area, south of Susangerd, in which 15 Iranians were reported killed.

In San Salvador Shots fired at U.S. Embassy

SAN SALVADOR, March 18 (AP) — Two unidentified men with automatic rifles fired 10 shots at the U.S. Embassy here as they rode past in a small pickup truck Tuesday, an embassy spokesman reported. No damage or injuries were reported.

It was the second time this month that gunmen attacked the heavily fortified U.S. mission in this violence-torn capital. U.S. officials blame the earlier shooting, also carried out from a passing vehicle, on extreme rightists who want to bring down the American-supported civilian-military junta governing El Salvador.

There was no immediate word on who might have been responsible for Tuesday's attack. It came as the chairman of a house subcommittee was in San Salvador questioning members of the junta about the need for U.S. aid.

Representative Clarence Long, whose subcommittee votes next week on the military aid President Reagan wants to send El Salvador, opened a two-day inspection of the Salvadoran situation Monday with a meeting with President Jose Napoleon Duarte, head of the junta.

Earlier, government sources reported a fire apparently set by leftist activists destroyed a government-owned textile plant in the capital while at least 20 rebels and two soldiers were killed in heavy fighting in two northern towns.

In Brussels, Belgium, the European Economic Community (EEC) released \$1.5 million in grants to El Salvador Tuesday after a one-month delay sparked by U.S. fears that the aid would fall into guerrilla hands.

An EEC spokesman said foreign affairs ministers of the 10 member nations approved the aid without comment at a meeting there after receiving assurances from the international Red Cross the relief would be distributed through regular, not rebel, channels.

The administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan asked the EEC to withhold the aid in February until it was sure it would not be distributed by leftist guerrillas and therefore tend to legitimize them in the eyes of the Salvadoran people. The Red Cross which is funneling the aid told EEC officials last week that it was satisfied with its procedure.

Lava from Etna threatens town

CATANIA, Sicily, March 18 (AP) — Lava pouring from a new crater of Mount Etna, Europe's most active volcano, cut the tracks of two railway lines and reached the outskirts of a town on the slopes Wednesday, officials reported.

Some people fled their homes overnight but returned with their belongings at daybreak, police said. However, plans were ready to evacuate the 12,000 residents of Randazzo if the situation worsened. Electrical power was interrupted for three hours Tuesday night. No casualties were reported.

"The lava poured by the new crater, opened at 1900 (1800 GMT) Tuesday at 1,700 meters on the northeastern slope, has traveled seven kilometers since then," the Catania International Volcanology Institute said in a telephone interview. The institute said the lava stream had destroyed some uninhabited farm houses and stopped within 800 meters of the town north of Catania.

British diplomat named in scandal

LONDON, March 18 (R) — A member of parliament, ignoring a government request to remain silent, has named a senior British diplomat who, he said, sent and received obscene material through the mail.

The accusation against Sir Peter Hayman, 66, Britain's High Commissioner in Canada from 1970 until he retired in 1974, was made under parliamentary privilege which enables members of parliament to raise matters in the house without fear of prosecution for libel or other offences.

Sir Peter was deputy commandant in the British military government of West Berlin from 1964 to 1966 and earlier served as director-general of British Information Services in New York and on the British delegation to NATO.

The government has already defended the original decision not to prosecute the diplomat, but he had not been named until Conservative MP Geoffrey Dickens tabled his two written questions Wednesday on the House of Commons order paper.

A reference to a diplomat was made at the London trial of Tom O'Carroll, chairman of an information exchange advocating sex between adults and children. O'Carroll was jailed for two years last week for conspiring to corrupt public morals.

One of Dickens's parliamentary questions asked the government if it "will move to set up a select committee to investigate the security implications of the entries contained within the volumes of Sir Peter Hayman's diaries referred to in the trial of Tom O'Carroll at the Old Bailey."

There was evidence at the trial that police had questioned and unnamed diplomat after he left pornographic material on a bus which led to the discovery of more pornographic material at his London flat.

Dickens's second questions asked the government's law minister, Attorney General Sir Michael Havers, "if he will prosecute Sir Peter Hayman under the post office acts for sending and receiving pornographic material through the mail."

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Declared persona non grata

Cuban envoy in Lisbon ordered out of country

LISBON, March 18 (AP) — Portugal Wednesday declared the resident Cuban ambassador persona non grata and ordered the diplomat to leave the country, the first expulsion of a top-ranking foreign envoy here since the 1974 revolution.

The foreign ministry announcement ordering Havana Ambassador Manuel Estevez Perez to leave Portuguese territory within 48 hours came minutes after the return of Lisbon's charge d'affair, to the Cuban capital, Julio Francisco De Sales Mascarenhas.

Mascarenhas, who was accused Monday in Havana by Cuban authorities of organizing the February takeover of the Equadorean embassy compound at that island nation's capital, gave no comment on the charges. Portuguese Foreign Minister Andre Goncalves Pereira Tuesday refuted the Cuban charges and presented a formal protest to the Cubans before calling Mascarenhas home "immediately."

The two-paragraph ministry note added that Goncalves Pereira, though not required to do so, had informed Estevez Perez of the reasons for the decision. Yet no mention was made in the announcement of the specific points cited by the minister.

However, the charges made against Mascarenhas by Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon Monday, considered a "public humiliation" by Portuguese officials, represented the latest in a series of setbacks for the two nations.

Alarcon's charges, that Mascarenhas helped organize the Equadorean embassy takeover as an agent for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, were delivered before a gathering of the diplomatic corps accredited to Havana following a series of defections embarrassing to Cuba.

Nearly 20 Cubans flying between Havana and Moscow on the same weekly flight that brought Mascarenhas have asked for temporary asylum here during the route's Lisbon stopover and been accepted.

Though all of those seeking Portuguese

asylum have expressed interest in family members and resettling in the U.S., the Portuguese role could not be taken lightly by Cuban officials,omatic sources agreed here.

Following Portuguese inquiries into unsuccessful attempt Dec. 27 by a C passenger on the same flight to request asylum, a Soviet official, the director of airons for Aeroflot in Portugal, was declared persona non grata and expelled. Government findings declared "profess ally trained agents" aboard that flight hustled the passenger in question aboard the plane, thwarting his gesture airport police.

Slow pace at Madrid irks West

MADRID, March 18 (R) — Several Western delegations have expressed impatience over a deadlock at the European security review conference, in session here since November and originally scheduled to be ended two weeks ago.

Chief West German delegate Joerg K. told the 35-state meeting Tuesday: "It is worth wasting our time looking for who responsible for this regrettable situation," said in a statement released to the press. "It is urgent to restore ... the reputation our meeting which has already suffered from the delay."

Conference sources said the Belg delegation also expressed impatience at slow pace of the conference attended by U.S., Canada and all European states except Albania. The sources said there had been progress on the drafting of a final document.

Among key issues under discussion a military confidence-building measure (CBMS) such as prior notification of major maneuvers. France, with NATO backing, called for a European disarmament conference to negotiate binding CBMS extending from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Soviet delegate Yuri Dubinin told the conference again Tuesday that Moscow was expecting concessions from the West in response to an offer from President Leonid Brezhnev to open Soviet European territory to military controls. But he again met a refusal from the West. "We welcome (the offer) but nobody can demand that we pay price for it," Kastl said.

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